Reviewer’s report

Title: Inappropriate Medication Use among the Elderly: a Systematic Review

Version: 3  Date: 26 August 2011

Reviewer: Sarah Berdot

Reviewer’s report:

I thank the authors for the answers to my comments. I only have some final comments.

Discretionary revisions

1) I find the discussion confusing. Could the authors follow the PRISMA checklist?

Summary of evidence: Summarize the main findings including the strength of evidence for each main outcome; consider their relevance to key groups (e.g., healthcare providers, users, and policy makers).

Limitations: Discuss limitations at study and outcome level (e.g., risk of bias), and at review-level (e.g., incomplete retrieval of identified research, reporting bias).

Conclusions: Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research.

2) I would add a primary outcome in the abstract and Method (like frequency of IMU).

3) I would add the real research strategy in appendix like this: ("Aged"[Mesh] NOT "Frail Elderly"[Mesh]) AND ("Drug Therapy"[Mesh]) OR ("Drug Utilization"[Mesh]) OR …

or like this

#1 ("Aged"[Mesh] NOT "Frail Elderly"[Mesh])
#2 (("Drug Therapy"[Mesh]) OR ("Drug Utilization"[Mesh]) OR ("Pharmaceutical Preparations"[Mesh])) OR …

Strategy: #1 AND #2…;

4) The intervention studies developed to reduce the IMU described in Introduction would be better in Discussion.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

No reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper, either now or in the future, received in the past five years.

No stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper, either now or in the future.

No currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript.

No reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript.

Financial competing interests:

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No non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper.