Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Hope and Connection: The Experience of Family Caregivers of Persons with Dementia Living in a Long Term Care Facility

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 1 May 2013

**Reviewer:** Genevieve Thompson

**Reviewer’s report:**

Thank you for the opportunity to review your manuscript "Hope and Connection: the experience of family caregivers of persons with dementia living in a long-term care facility". This is an area of importance for this population and I appreciate your work in this area.

This article is extremely well written, and methodologically sound. You have a well defined purpose to your study, the methods are well described, and you attend to the steps taken to ensure rigor in the qualitative design.

A few minor essential revisions such as grammatical/spelling errors (on page 4 replace "Two, with Too"; on page 9 under Descriptions of Hope the sentence starting with "They described their own..." it seem like it is missing the word "time" after same.).

A discretionary revision: The one thing I would have liked to have seen was a description of any Implications for Practice. So based on what you have described, how can practitioners foster hope, facilitate hope in dementia family caregivers. I think this would add to your article but is not essential.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

"I declare that I have no competing interests"