Reviewer’s report

Title: Medication management for primary care patients with dementia: a study protocol

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Reviewer: Lee-Fay Low

Reviewer's report:

This paper describes the implementation plan for a medication management module of a larger study of a collaborative care model in primary care for people with dementia. The subject under study is important and worthwhile, and as described, the intervention appears sound and feasible.

The main problem with the paper is the description and content. The title describes it as a study protocol, the aims as listed in the abstract are to develop, define and test efficacy and efficiency of home medication review and medication management for people with dementia in the primary care setting. However the paper fails to describe the development process of the intervention (though the detail of this may not be necessary), nor describe in detail how efficacy and efficiency of the intervention will be defined, measured and statistically evaluated. My search of the English language literature did not identify the protocol of the DelpHi-MV study, the main study of this is a component, nor did it appear to be referenced in this protocol. Hence I am unable to judge whether the study design is adequate to test the hypothesis.

There were sufficient details of the intervention. However it would be helpful to have clarification on a few points. a) I assume that the in-home medication review will involve a "bathroom cabinet review" physically looking at all the medications the person with dementia is taking. However I was unable to find this explicitly stated. b) on page 14, the paper suggests a regularly updated guideline-based pharmacotherapy card and describe the details of this. However it is not clear whether this will be provided as part of their intervention and who will be developing and providing it. c) for readers not familiar with the German system, it would be helpful to understand who will pay for the pharmacist's time attending training, and in leading and participating in the medication management process. d) greater detail about the training of the pharmacists, for instance how long is training and who will run it - the section on training could be moved earlier in the paper before describing the intervention with persons with dementia.

There was insufficient information to know whether the larger study met standards for reporting and data deposition. As currently described, the write-up does not meet consort standards.

The writing was of an acceptable standard. The discussion was long a slightly
repetitive for a study protocol. The introduction was slightly German centric, and more reference to international literature may help readers apply the information to their own country.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no competing interests