Reviewer's report

Title: Challenges to Implementation of Developmental Screening in Urban Primary Care: A Mixed Methods Study

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Reviewer: Rosa Calvo

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript addresses the limited use of effective tools to screen developmental problems in pediatric population, in spite of AAP recommendation and recent reports of increased early identification with such instruments.

The manuscript does not contain any results or original data but consists in the description of the rationale and methodologies used in a large and important previously published manuscript (Guevara et al, 2013).

I address some comments to the attention of the authors that could enhance the quality of the manuscript and deliver some interesting results:

Major compulsory revision:

- The behavioral constructs of the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) are used to improve the planned intervention (implementation of standardized instruments of developmental screenings). The TBP could be useful to predict the positive behavior intended by the intervention, as it has been use previously in the health field. This approach has helped to identify needs for pediatricians, similar to those previously described (Earls and Hay, 2006). Variables from both the clinicians group and parents participating into the focus group were described. A correlation study between the psychosocial variables (Perceived needs or normative beliefs of clinicians, for example), sociodemographic variables of the participants and the outcome measures could enlighten the nature of the predictors that elicit the most positive behaviors.

- A comparison with the variables of the general sample could help to know if the participants into the focus groups are representative subjects of the sample.

- Another important source of information missing is the number of screened and referred children prior to intervention.

Minor Essential Revisions:

- An enormous personal and financial effort was made to provide the intervention but completed referral rates to EI continued to be very low. A promising strategy seems to identify the most prominent factors that allow to increase standardized tools to screen developmental delays and invest extra efforts in completion of the referred children. I suggest a brief discussion on this topic.
- In the References section, the previous published study is not properly cited (see reference number 23)

- Tables and figures:
  - Figure one is beyond reach of the average reader of the Publication. No more than a brief explanation of the intentions and procedures in the Theory of Planned Behaviour is needed.
  - Table 1: (Characteristics of Focus Group Participants). As it offers no comparison with variables of the whole sample or correlation with outcome measures, its relevance is limited.
  - Table 2: (Perceived Challenges to Screening from Focus Group): Too exhaustive information.
  - Table 3: (Implementation Strategy for Developmental Screening): Already explained in the text, the content is redundant.
  - Table 4 (Results of Developmental Screening) Improved information should contain comparison with numbers prior to intervention

**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 declare that I have no competing interests