Reviewer's report

Title: Using intervention mapping (IM) to develop a self-management program for employees with a chronic disease in the Netherlands

Version: 6 Date: 25 January 2010

Reviewer: Fehmidah Munir

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Minor Essential Revisions

1) It is not clear from the article that this is an outline of steps taken to design the intervention with no actual hard results. I suggest making this clearer in the abstract and at the end of the introduction that what the authors are actually presenting is a description and results of the design of the intervention only, and not any actual results of the intervention itself.

2) The authors should state the purpose of presenting the steps taken to design the intervention and why it is useful to the readers to have this information.

3) On page 18, the authors outline the criteria for participants to be included. What is the sample size? What is the power calculation for it?

Discretionary revisions

1) It would be useful to state at the end of the results section whether the authors’ intervention has been completed and if not, at what stage it is at. e.g. how many have completed the full intervention, how many have just been recruited etc.

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:

I declare I have no competing interests