Reviewer’s report

Title: Supporting self-management after attending a structured education programme: a qualitative longitudinal investigation of type 1 diabetes patients’ experiences and views

Version: 1 Date: 28 June 2012

Reviewer: Flora Haaijer-Ruskamp

Reviewer's report:

Review about methods

In general the methods are well described and applied. I have some concerns.

Additional information needed in the methods:

How is dealt with reverting back to earlier responses of patients in earlier rounds? Where patients confronted with those answers? And how they felt now about it…

How representative is the study population for the DAFNE population (which was the intention) and possibly to diabetes1 population in the UK?

Results

I miss attention for how effectively the patients used this flexible intensive insulin treatment, how this changed over time, their difficulties with it (including aspects such as too time intensive, too much reminding patients of their having diabetes, and other emotional possible barriers). The attention is mainly focused (in the topic guide) on rational issues, such as support.

The strength of the study, longitudinal design, is little exploited hardly addressed in the analysis. How did support needs change, and how did this happen in relation to intensive use of this treatment mode, and in relation to (lack of) support? Did any patients stop using this treatment mode?

Minor issues

there are still some typo’s in the text.