Reviewer's report

Title: Using Intervention Mapping to Develop a Work-Related Guidance Tool for those Affected by Cancer

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Reviewer: Angela de Boer

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Overall: This study describes the development of a work-related guidance tool for people affected by cancer. Work-related outcomes are important aspects after treatment for cancer and therefore deserve attention in research and practice. This interesting and innovating study addresses this issue and provides a new tool. I have some comments described below.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. From the abstract it is not clear what the content of the tool is and how it is used. This is quite essential to understand what the article is about. Some of the information of the background could be moved to results.

2. More tables are needed in the results to make article easier to understand, eg systematic information on the patient characteristics of the focus groups/ interviews (age, sex, diagnosis, years since diagnosis, etc.) and on the results of the systematic review; and on the characteristics of the experts.

3. The tool and content of the tool are most important so a figure or box with the categories and questions and stakeholders is better that just in the text.

4. What are the results of the feasibility study?

5. The discussion is rather short, especially compared to the results section. Comparison of the results (review, focus groups results, experts results, feasibility, etc) to other studies should be added.

Discretionary Revisions

1. In the introduction, only physical effects are discussed which influence rtw. But psychological effects such as depression or social factors such as discrimination are as important.

2. Maguire performed a UK-based rtw hospital-led intervention in the 1980’s.

3. Under conclusions, it is not custom to mention that you are looking for funding.
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 that I have no competing interests.