Reviewer's report

**Title:** Recognition and use of the bio-psychosocial model of pain management in British pain clinics - results of a qualitative study of staff from a range of disciplines.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 27 July 2009

**Reviewer:** Julia Hush

**Reviewer's report:**

This study explores an important question, namely: do multidisciplinary pain clinics implement all components of the bio-psychosocial model? The qualitative methods used for the design, conduct and analysis of the study are appropriate. The manuscript is well-written. The findings are of interest because they reveal aspects of bio-psychosocial model implementation in pain clinics that could be improved to better address physical and social aspects of the model.

**Minor Essential revisions**

1. As stated in the Abstract, the aim of the study was "to explore how chronic musculoskeletal pain is managed in multidisciplinary pain clinics." The Methods section states that practitioners were sampled from seven hospital-based pain clinics and one pain management unit (page 4, paragraph 3). However, in the footnote on page 4, the pain clinics are not described as multidisciplinary. It would be important to state in the Methods section which health disciplines typically run both types of unit, in light of the aim and title of the study.

2. The limitation that these views and processes may not reflect those of pain clinics and professionals in other countries should be stated.

3. There are typographical or grammatical errors which are listed below.
   - Page 2, paragraph 2; "study" or "investigation", not both.
   - Page 2, paragraph 3; hyphen is missing from bio-psychosocial.
   - Page 2, paragraph 3; "physical approaches" not "physical approached".
   - Page 2, paragraph 4; "too great", not "to great".
   - Page 4, paragraph 1; "independently" not "independent".
   - Page 4, paragraph 1; "..we have analysed the views of professionals working in pain clinics"; need to add: "and a pain management unit".
   - Page 5, paragraph 2; "practitioners' approaches" not "practitioners approaches".
   - Page 7, paragraph 2; hyphen is missing from bio-psychosocial.
   - Page 19, paragraph 1; hyphen is missing from bio-psychosocial.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.