Reviewer's report

Title: Back pain outcomes in primary care following a practice improvement intervention: a prospective cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 23 November 2010

Reviewer: Paolo Pillastrini

Reviewer's report:

The work has been properly modified and, in my opinion, now the manuscript is easier to understand. However I have still some issues that need addressing by the authors.

I made the comments below.

Major revisions:
Comment: The Population paragraph of the Methods section is not clear. Please split it into three different parts showing:
1. the characteristics of the sample used,
2. the inclusion and exclusion criteria and
3. characteristics of professionals (degree, job, etc.) who participated at the study.

I don’t understand why the Authors state: “This has been done” at our comment: “Report confidence intervals in Table 2 and centre the table”. The table is the same.

Comment: This part of the work “A co-ordinator made telephone contact within one week, obtained final consent and the patient baseline questionnaire was then completed” should be inserted in “Intervention” and not in “Population” paragraph.

Comment: Project Wiki need a reference or an explanation.

Comment: The "quality improvement facilitator” must be explained also in the text.

Minor Revisions
Comment: Please insert the version number of Microsoft Excel used.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests