Reviewer's report

Title: What does standard rehabilitation practice after total hip replacement in the UK entail? A mixed qualitative and quantitative study.

Version: 2 Date: 31 July 2012

Reviewer: Vigdis Schnell Husby

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Major compulsory revisions.

Introduction:
Page 4: ..., the length of hospital stay following joint replacement has reduced markedly over the past decade from a mean of 3 weeks to 4 days.
Page 6, line 1: To facilitate continued adaptation, training load is progressively increased,...

Methods:
Inconsequent use of numbers/letters in the text.
Description of statistical analysis should be added.

Discussion:
In general, the discussion part has potential for improvement.
The first paragraph should describe the most important finding of the study.
Page 10, line 7: Any suggestion why there is a discrepancy between the knowledge of PRT and actually including PRT in the exercises recommended? Why are the patients not referred to outpatient physiotherapy after discharge?
These important topics should be more thoroughly discussed (other factors than time constraints and practical problems). And, what is the orthopaedic surgeon’s role in the rehabilitation recommendations?
Page 11, line 16-17: Physiotherapists background is previously described in the method section.

Conclusion:
The suggestion for future research: More focus should be on the implementation of PRT; the benefits of PRT are already established as described in the introduction part.

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.`