Reviewer's report

Title: Fatigue in osteoarthritis: a qualitative study

Version: 1 Date: 14 February 2008

Reviewer: Julie H Barlow

Reviewer's report:

It was good to see a study focused on fatigue in OA.

Minor essential revisions:
The Abstract needs to mention 'community-dwelling' people with OA.
References need to be in the arthritis field rather than cancer (para. 3 after 1st sentence).
The referencing system used was very odd. For example refs 48, 49 adn 50 are all the same paper and not 3 different papers.
The results section was particularly interesting.

It was not clear what the questionnaire measures contribute to the study. They could have been used to assign participants to the focus groups by high vs low depression or high vs low fatigue for example. Either delete the Q data or discuss it more and refer to how future studies could use both quantitative and qualitative data in a more complementary way than has been done here.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

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.