Reviewer's report

Title: Characteristics and Effectiveness of Diabetes Self-management Educational Programs targeted to Racial/ Ethnic Minority Groups. A systematic review, meta-analysis and meta-regression

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Reviewer: David Chaney

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this well written manuscript offering a review of the effectiveness of self-management education programmes targeted at racial / ethnic minority groups. The manuscript is well presented and clear in the issues that it raises. The literature is up to date and relevant to the purpose of the review. The authors raise many interesting issues which will no doubt contribute to the literature about self-management education and the methodology used is comprehensive and appropriate for study design.

There are some minor typos on:
Page 5 line 108
Page 10 line 229 and 230

I would encourage the authors to expand on the methodological review of the 37 papers reviewed. Thus it would be good to explore in more depth issues such as, the need to instigate studies with longer follow up; describe the sample size and methods, discuss the need for greater heterogeneity in future research tools and explore the qualifications of the educators used within the studies. This added section would give rise to recommendations for future research within the area similar to the previous work of Hampson et al 2001 and Murphy et al 2007.

Otherwise I believe this piece of work would contribute to the existing evidence and will be of interest to many clinicians and educators working in the area of diabetes care.

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