Reviewer's report

Title: Family physician and endocrinologist coordination as the basis for diabetes care in clinical practice

Version: 4 Date: 28 November 2007

Reviewer: David Simmons

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a 30 month randomised trial of management of Type 2 diabetes with PVD between primary-secondary integrated care and secondary care alone. The authors report very little difference between the two. This is an important and timely paper. The study design appears appropriate.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1-There are a large number of grammatical errors that need to be addressed
2-What screams out is the need for a description of what the differences in cost between the 2 approaches were. What resources (eg how many diabetologists, nurse specialists, dietitians) did the secondary services need to deliver the support?
3-What did the specialist services do in the first 3 months? How intensive was this?
4-The interventions occurred may best be tabulated-in the 30 month follow up-what happened in the specialist services and in the integrated services?
5-The stats look at changes within the groups-we need comparisons between A and B and a repeated measures approach-statistical advice is needed
6-Discussion should have more in about integrated care
7-Tables overlap and repeat baseline data

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests'