Reviewer’s report

Title: DreamTel; Diabetes Risk Evaluation and Management Tele-monitoring Study

Version: 7 Date: 21 April 2009

Reviewer: Dereck Hunt

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to re-review this manuscript. The overall quality of the manuscript has significantly improved.

Minor essential revisions:

Abstract:
Paragraph 2, sentence 3: The current sentence is incomplete. The authors may wish to consider rewriting the sentence and indicating the duration of phases two and three. The reference to the duration could then be removed later on in the abstract.

Paper:
Page 3, paragraph 1: The authors should remove the capital I in the word “in” in the statement “in addition to the significant health benefits of blood pressure and lipid control”.

Page 3, paragraph 1: The authors should insert a comma after the reference to the ACCORD study. A comma should also be inserted after the phrase “also targeting normalization of A1c below 7.0%”.

Page 3, paragraph 2: A comma should be inserted after the words “new diabetes induced microvascular target organ damage”. Farther on in the paragraph, the word “a” has been mistyped as “sa” when describing the driving time to Edmonton.

Page 4, paragraph 2: The authors should insert the word “dialysis” after the word “new” in line 5 of the paragraph. Farther down in the same paragraph, the authors should insert the words “of diabetes” after the words “higher rates”. This is in line 21 of the paragraph.

Page 5, paragraph 1, line 3: The authors indicate that the recommendation for glycemic control is an A1c of < 7.0%. This should be changed to < 7.0 so as to be consistent with the reference made later in the same paragraph.

Page 5, paragraph 2, line 9: The authors do not need to capitalize the word “the”. The authors should also rewrite the entire sentence that currently reads as “evidence for caution in the way that diabetes intensification is achieved comes from the ACCORD study which targeting aggressive normalization of A1c in
patients with longstanding diabetes and found an elevated mortality”.

Page 5, paragraph 3: The authors should insert the word “study” after the term STENO-2 in line 9 of the paragraph. The authors should also change the comma later in the same line to a period. The authors suggest that the glycemic target was 6.5% in both the active and control arms of the study. For the bulk of the trial, the glycemic target in the control arm was in fact 7.5%.

Page 8, paragraph 2, line 14: The authors should change the word “received” to “receive”.

Page 9, paragraph 1, line 6: The authors should change the word “the” to the word “each”. The authors should also remove the word “the” that comes just before the word “questionnaires” later in the same sentence as the questionnaire has not previously been referred to.

Page 9, paragraph 2, line 1: I am uncertain as to whether the word “denominated” is in fact the best term to be using to describe the type of data being collected.

Page 9, paragraph 3, line 1: The authors refer the reader to Appendix B which describes the medication algorithm. The authors may wish to rename the appendices as in fact no previous reference to an appendix has been made in the manuscript.

Page 10, paragraph 2: The authors may wish to rewrite sentence number 4. The current sentence suggests that the currently existing provincial emergency health hotline was in fact developed by the homecare team and the study investigators. The authors may also wish to rewrite or remove the subsequent sentence.

Page 10, paragraph 4, line 3: The authors should remove the apostrophe in the word “patients”.

Page 11, paragraph 2, line 1: The authors should insert the words “who are” after the term “designated RNs”.

Page 12, paragraph 3, line 2: The authors may wish to remove the words “Health Services” at the end of line 2.

Page 13, paragraph 4, line 4: This is the first reference made to Appendix A. In terms of the appendices themselves, there are currently two appendices labeled “Appendix A”.

As indicated earlier, the overall quality of the current manuscript has significantly improved, compared with earlier versions.

**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.