**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Patient-Centred Care in General Dental Practice - A Systematic Review of the Literature

**Version:** 1  
**Date:** 17 April 2014

**Reviewer:** Derek Richards

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a timely review of an area of increasing important and highlights a lack of understanding of patient-centered care within dentistry.

**Major compulsory revisions.**

Given that the processes of conducting systematic reviews are well established (if not always well carried out) I think that the authors should consider editing the methodology section of this review as some of the explanation seem excessively wordy and prone to repetition. For example in the following section.

There is no universally agreed quality appraisal tool for qualitative research [35], but the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) for qualitative research [36] is considered to be a suitable tool for quality appraisal in the oral health field[ 37]. This tool was selected as it was considered appropriate in terms of the research studies identified within this literature review.

The second sentence seems superfluous.

**Minor essential revisions**

On page 3 it should be clarified that the new system introduced in 2006 was for England as was the DQOF which is referred to later in the paragraph.

On page 5 in the section on the search strategy it would be helpful to indicate why additional databases were searched and why supplemental search techniques were applied.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**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