Reviewer's report

Title: Family meetings in palliative care: multidisciplinary clinical practice guidelines

Version: 1 Date: 13 May 2008

Reviewer: Sheila Payne

Reviewer's report:

This paper is concerned with describing the development of clinical practice guidelines for conducting family meetings in palliative care. It comes from a strong team of Australian authors. The paper offers three elements: a review of the literature, a conceptual analysis (the weakest part in my view) and clinical practice guidelines (the most useful part for practitioners). The aims of the paper are clearly stated and it is presented in a logical and scholarly style. The methods of the literature review are adequately explained.

Overall this paper is sound and addresses an important gap in the literature. There are a couple of minor typographical errors but other than those, I can not see any further improvements required.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.