Reviewer's report

Title: A Comparative Analysis of Computer Based Hospice Palliative Care Datasets in Canada

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Reviewer: Robin Fainsinger

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Manuscript for: BMC Palliative Care
Title: A Comparative Analysis of Computer Based Hospice Palliative Care Datasets in Canada
Author(s): Kuziemsky & Lau

Comments for author:

This is a very interesting report that builds on the limited previous literature on the need to develop a common electronic data base for hospice palliative care programs in Canada. The purpose of the paper is well defined and the methodology is certainly reasonable. The results are reported with clarity and the discussion and conclusions are well balanced and reasonable.

I would make the following minor revision suggestions for the authors:

1. The methodology could include a better description and more information on what the seven programs involved in the study were asked to send. It would also be useful to know what services and settings are covered by these different centres, and whether the information submitted covered similar settings of care, e.g. consulting services in an acute care hospital, palliative care units, etc.

2. The use of the abbreviation hospice palliative care is inconsistently done throughout the manuscript. At times the abbreviation HPC is used, and at other times the full wording is used.

3. In the Methods section the program in Edmonton is incorrectly referred to as the Edmonton Regional Palliative Care Program, when the correct description would be Capital Health Regional Palliative Program, Edmonton. This is also incorrect in the acknowledgements.

4. In the Introduction the author Gaudette, is incorrectly spelt.

# I do not have any confidential comments for the Editor.
# I would categorize my comments as minor essential revisions.
# I would suggest publication as #Accept after minor essential revisions#.
# I would suggest publication in BMC Palliative Care as it is more likely to be of interest to that specialty rather than of more general interest.
In previous correspondence, I have indicated a conflict of interest as data provided by our program is included and acknowledged in this study.