Reviewer's report

Title: Out-of-hours palliative care by GP co-operatives: availability, content and effect of transferred information.

Version: 1 Date: 30 March 2009

Reviewer: Cathy Shipman

Reviewer's report:

This could be a potentially interesting and useful paper but it needs a greater review of relevant literature, particularly D. Munday and attention to the language and sentence structure. One example on page 5, second paragraph from the bottom, refers to nursery homes, which should be nursing homes. There is confusion about the use of full stops and commas when presenting percentages etc. which needs clarification and amendment.

On page three, the first line of the last paragraph refers to an article by Shipman et al in the BJGP 2000, which is not in the references. Reference 12 is Burt et al - not Thomas, Burt et al. I wonder why a search of textwords did not include heart failure and COPD - this seems very cancer biased.

The discussion needs a reworking in relating to relevant literature and also the debate about how relevant transferred information might be.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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