Reviewer's report

Title: Current Challenges and Future Directions for Naturopathic Medicine in Australia: A Qualitative Examination of Perceptions and Experiences from Grassroots Practice

Version: 2 Date: 1 October 2012

Reviewer: Pauline McCabe

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Minor essential revisions

The following sentences need some grammatical work to make their meaning clear.

P 10 para 1 - First sentence

"Some participants perceived that the confusion over naturopathic training and scope of practice, combined with the unregulated practice environment and co-option of the term naturopath people participants described as “quacks”, “charlatans” and “shonks” encouraged the public perception of a divorce between naturopathy and biomedical science."

P 12 para 1 - second sentence seems to be incomplete. What are the authors saying about support for statutory regulation?

"There was a belief by practitioners that regulation “would fix” many of the problems within the profession, even those not necessarily related to professional or practice standards (such as uniting the profession), which is a finding consistent with quantitative research that suggests that support for statutory regulation amongst the naturopathic workforce" [8, 9, 30].

P 14 para 3, sentence too long and last part doesn't make sense:

"Although the naturopaths in this study highlight concerns about uncritical acceptance of a dogmatic EBM model and the negative effects this could have on naturopathic practice, they also incorporated a broadly positive view of an increasingly scientific approach to naturopathic training and practice, which incorporating increased biomedical training, a finding that seems consistent with previous studies of naturopathic perspectives"

Also, there are quite a few minor grammatical errors. The article would benefit from closer editing.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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