Reviewer's report

Title: The role of natural health products (NHPs) in dietetic practice: Results from a survey of Canadian dietitians

Version: 2 Date: 11 March 2013

Reviewer: Nancy Wellman

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

Abstract: Include data in Results (and Conclusions) sections; too vague as written.

Introduction and/or Conclusions: To strengthen your advocacy for RDs roles and responsibilities re NHPs, include that some national dietary guidelines recommend the use of dietary supplements for specific population groups, eg, Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2012: folic acid for women capable of becoming pregnant, B12 for those age 50 years and older, etc. I am not as familiar with Canadian and other guidelines, but they likely include such recommendations too.

Comment needed earlier in the narrative on the relatively low (20%) response rate. Limitations could include an assumption that the survey topic may have been too uncomfortable for those with minimal or no knowledge of NHPs. Thus, that contributed to the low response rate.

Limitations: Expand on the secondary follow-up survey results.


Refs #5 & #10 are identical. Use a single citation per author guidelines.

Minor Essential Revisions

Please correct the name, American Dietetic (no s) Association throughout. Also ADA changed its name to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics last yr.

Methods: Check verb tense in Methods and throughout the narrative. Also check capitalizations for the three NHPs groups throughout.

Was the survey changed after pre-testing?

Edit to reduce redundancy in text and tables/figures.
Discretionary Revisions

Conclusions: Explain the sentence “This is warranted, even taking into consideration the potentially overlapping roles of other health care providers in this area.”

Abbreviations: put in alphabetical order

Tables and Figures: Bar graph figures could be combined into 1 table with the actual percentages.

**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'