Reviewer's report

Title: Integrating complementary and alternative medicine into mainstream healthcare services: the perspectives of health service managers

Version: 1 Date: 7 February 2014

Reviewer: helen cramer

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

• There are no Major Compulsory Revisions

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. Between page 11&12 there is an erroneous page break in my version
2. Page 18 a paragraph that starts ‘The health service managers perceive’ is wrongly indented
3. Page 27 second paragraph starting ‘The health service managers’. The third sentence starting ‘However, a study by…’ The sentence just has a reference [20] and needs instead to say something like ‘Kopansky-Giles and colleagues…’.
4. Table title ‘Table 1a’ is given twice
5. Table heading in Table 1a CHS 2a and 2b. Why there is 2a and 2b isn’t very clear to the reader.
6. Table 1b. This might be a language difference but should ‘physio’ not be ‘physiotherapist’
7. Some of the paragraph lines in between the references have squashed the references together.

Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)

• It might just be my personal preference but I struggled with the abbreviations throughout. Although CAM was OK for me and I think quite widely familiar to most people, the term IHC & CHS are less familiar to me and so I had to keep stopping to think what they meant and this made reading the article much harder. As the BMC journals are web not paper based and so word limit less of a problem could these terms be used more in full?

Additional comments

This is an interesting study. It is very clear and well written. It is a pity that the study sample size is very small with only 8 participants, but the authors address this directly in the limitations. Despite its small sample size, the informants have
some very interesting things to say and these points are clearly brought out in the paper by the authors.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance 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