Reviewer’s report

Title: A qualitative study of the health-seeking behaviours of people of South Asian origin in the UK with a diagnosis of epilepsy: biomedicine, complementary and alternative medicine and ethnomedicine

Version: 1 Date: 7 September 2007

Reviewer: Sivasankaran P Sashidharan

Reviewer’s report:

General
The paper is too discursive. Needs to be tightened by (i) shortening the introduction (ii) expanding the methods section including further description and details of sampling frame, inclusion criteria and reasons for the very high non-response rate, not 66% as the authors say but 78% (based on 30/139). Must give more information on how the interviews were conducted, whether the 2 interviewers approached the subjects similarly, how the focus group was set up, characteristics of attendees and how they differed from the interview sample)(iii) providing the data separately for focus group and interviews before drawing on common themes, providing age, gender and ethnicity for the individual quotes which are identified only by name now (iv) making the conclusion section relevant to the findings of the study by abandoning the section Speculations for the future.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
All the above requirements to be met.

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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