Reviewer's report

Title: A real time locating system observes physician styles during walk-rounds: a pilot study

Version: 2 Date: 19 October 2013

Reviewer: Scott Wright

Reviewer's report:

Edits and changes have helped.

Several thoughts that are still problematic in the opinion of this reviewer:

- The concept of 'mandatory once-weekly medical teaching team patient care rounding session' sounds odd. Why isn't this occurring everyday? If rounding with teaching does not occur every day, it should occur much more than once weekly. If this is some special different kind of rounding with a senior clinician that offers a different kind of teaching (like Chief Rounds at our institution), then this is not described well enough AND it is not the every day kind of teaching rounds that warrant analysis.

- I am not convinced that the data that you have says anything about rounding style. Saying that 3 distinct styles of rounds were identified seems like a major departure or leap beyond your data. In following 8 individuals, it is far more likely that the work to be done on those days (including factors such as (i) which patients were to be discharged, (ii) which were more ill and needed an earlier assessment / discussion, and (iii) patients mental status or psychiatric illness) would have influenced the patient care rounds as opposed to the 'styles' of the physicians followed.

- Figures are still impossible follow - would delete.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.