Reviewer’s report

Title: Issues and challenges in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular risk factors: assessing the needs of cardiologists

Version: 1 Date: 2 January 2008

Reviewer: Donna E. Stewart

Reviewer’s report:

1) This article is moderately interesting. Its most interesting finding in my opinion is that cardiologists do not see that their behaviour or language affects patient adherence to their recommendations. This alone justifies publication and action.

2) The findings that academic and community specialists have different opinions or learning styles is present across specialties and is not new. Similarly, specialists across specialties complain about GP referrals as do GP’s complain about specialists’ reports (or lack thereof)! This should be noted (minor essential).

3) Residual risk may not be poorly understood by cardiologists but it is difficult to discuss with patients (discretionary).

4) The graphs are largely uninformative and should be reduced (minor essential).

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests