Reviewer's report

Title: Web-based information for pregnant women and new mothers with type 1 diabetes- a description of the development process

Version: 1 Date: 20 July 2012

Reviewer: Margareta Larsson

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Major compulsory revisions:
This is not a regular research article and should be labelled differently. I does not report any findings but describes the process of developing web-based patient information.

Background should include basic principles for development of patient information. There is extensive literature on information-giving and the challenges and problems related to that.

Method
Is participatory design really democratic? Isn't interactive a better description of the concept? Different levels of participation is mentioned but not described and the level chosen for this project not clarified. The link to the trial needs to be better explained.

Results
It is unclear whether these seven stages just happened along the developmental process or if they had clearly been outlined before starting. I would suspect that at least some of the stages had been agreed on beforehand, and if so this part of the text would fit better in the method section.

The description on what actually happened during those different stages can still fit in the result section.

Discussion and conclusion
Two major things need to be discussed.
1. If this was a participatory design, why were the target group members involved at such a late stage? I find this process to be very expert-driven even if the target group had some influence in the later stages of the development. But again, they were not involved in step 6 and 7 which could also have been useful to help ensure the web-site became user-friendly.

2. Cultural suitability
Every fourth baby born in Sweden has a mother with foreign origin. How were the needs and opinions of these mothers taken into account? How can this web-site be useful for them?
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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'