Reviewer’s report

Title: No personalization without participation: On the active contribution of psychiatric patients to the development of a mobile application

Version: 1 Date: 17 April 2013

Reviewer: Abraham Rudnick

Reviewer’s report:

This is a helpful contribution to the literature on use of smart technology for people with mental illness, with a focus on engaging their participation in the R&D involved.

A few comments:

1. On page 4, at the end of the Background section and/or at the start of the Study design section, the study objectives should be clarified better.

2. On page 5, in the first paragraph, a clarification of how the samples were selected (to be representative) should be added.

3. On page 6, in the first paragraph of the Methodology section, it should be clarified how the RN observations were checked for credibility, and/or the observation guide (likely captured in Appendix A of the research protocol) should be added for similar clarification.

4. On page 7, in the last paragraph before the section Results and discussion, clarification should be added on how confidentiality of discussion in the focus groups was safeguarded, i.e., in relation to focus group participants informed of maintaining confidentiality of other focus group participants.

5. On page 15, in the last sentence of the Conclusion section, it would be helpful to add that family members and other significant others of patients could be involved too.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.