Reviewer's report

**Title:** Privacy and Information Security Risks in a Technology Platform for Home-based Chronic Disease Rehabilitation and Education

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 8 April 2013

**Reviewer:** Maja van der Velden

**Reviewer's report:**

This is an interesting case study of a qualitative security risk assessment. It reads, however, too much as a case report. Some work needs to be done to bring it to the level of an academic article.

**Major Compulsory Revisions:**

1. What I found missing was a grounding of the methodology (qualitative assessment) and method (threat table) in the literature as well as a kind of justification why this approach was deemed the most appropriate in this study. For example, the "Privacy by Design" perspective could be introduced in the Background section. This will support the justification for the approach taken in the study.

2. In addition, there is no review of the existing literature on this type of study. Does this mean this study is the first of its kind? If not, a brief discussion of the literature will help locate this study as well as support the approach used in the study.

**Minor Essential Revisions:**

3. Is a "threat table" a known method? If so, please provide references. It would also be helpful to have a pointer to your threat table in Section 2. It would also be good to have a brief evaluation of the method in the discussion. What are the strengths and weaknesses of this method for a "Privacy by Design" approach.

4. There are minor issues with grammar and word use (use of commas, subject-verb agreement, and some word use).

**Discretionary Revision:**

5. Maybe use the term 'qualitative' in the title or as a keyword.

**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