Reviewer's report

Title: Is there scope for community health nurses to address lifestyle risk factors? The Community Nursing SNAP Trial

Version: 2 Date: 10 November 2011

Reviewer: Patricia Davidson

Reviewer's report:

Thankyou for the opportunity to review this article which identifies an important workforce solution for dealing with the burden of chronic disease.

This paper examines the opportunity and need for lifestyle interventions for patients attending generalist community nursing services in Australia. There is limited data on community nursing interventions and as a consequence this article makes an important contribution. I have the following points which I think will improve the manuscript.

1. For an international audience greater description of the role and scope of practice of the generalist community nurse should be provided, including their relationship with the local area health service and models of renumeration.

2. Can the authors describe the reasons that patients were under the care of a GCN?

3. Given the low rate of recall of prompts from GPs what are the implication of these data for primary care?

4. What are the implications of these findings for primary care and collaborative practice and pharmacological interventions.

5. Given the high prevalence of lifestyle risk factors, but also of readiness to change, what are potential models of interventions?

6. If the GCN is to play a role in risk reduction what are the skill sets required?

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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