Reviewer's report

Title: Nurses’ and care workers’ experiences of spiritual needs in patients with dementia disease in nursing homes: a qualitative study.

Version: 5 Date: 28 March 2014

Reviewer: David Jolley

Reviewer's report:

This is basically a good paper now and has much to commend it. The authors have acted on most of the recommendations made by reviewers.

My major concern remains their insistence on the use of the term 'patient' so often and persistently. Many people will see this as offensive, reducing or denying the equal claims of the individual with dementia to be valued as a person.

p 12: 'a specific disorder that requires special healthcare initiatives that place residents in a patient role'

These are people, resident in care and to be seen as such - Over 80% of the residents have dementia. In this context, it is normality. In any context people with dementia should not be set apart.

Minor observations:

p14 "nurses experienced that' - better: 'Nurses found that'

p15 'aimless wandering' perhaps better 'non-focussed walking' (Mary Marshall)

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests