Reviewer's report

Title: A systematic exploration of differences in contextual factors related to implementing the MOVE! Weight Management Program in VA: A Mixed Methods Study

Version: 1 Date: 4 February 2011

Reviewer: Joseph Francis

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Major compulsory revisions:

1. The authors describe the sampling of the 5 sites as "purposive" but do not give more details on how those sites were actually selected. Where they the "most extreme" sites on the distribution of performance, were they selected randomly from high and low performers, or were other factors (convenience; proximity; personal contacts) used?

2. I am curious why, once the authors determined that sites needed to be re-classified as a result of information gathered during the interview, that they chose to use those sites under the new (post-interview) classification rather than the original "intent". By classifying the site based on the interview, rather than the original measure that was meant to serve as a surrogate of implementation, bias may be introduced. I realize that mixed method studies often utilize a "pragmatic" rather than "pristine" approach, but I would have greater confidence in the conclusions if the observed trends were the same upon exclusion of those reclassified sites.

Minor revisions:

1. For the reader outside of VA, a bit more information about overall organizational context should be included, especially when discussing such factors as working down clinic backlogs (VA has had a huge increase in users, and has adopted an emphasis on advanced clinic access) and the role of performance measures.

2. The authors should provide a brief rationale for their choosing the particular implementation model selected for this study.

Discretionary:

1. The manuscript may benefit from visuals that describe the CFIR and Klein/Conn/Sorra models.

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.