Reviewer’s report

Title: Experiences of pharmacists involved in the delivery of a specialist asthma service in Australia

Version: 2 Date: 25 February 2012

Reviewer: ASRUL SHAFIE

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript reports the results from a qualitative study on experiences of pharmacists that were involved in a research initiated specialist asthma service. This is a very interesting topic given the expansion of pharmacy practice into disease management. However, there are several changes that need to be done to improve its clarity:

1. The role of community pharmacy and GP in Australia primary health care system should be described in the background. Are they separate entity or contracted to each other? [Minor Essential Revisions]

2. Pp9, para2: How does rapport between interviewer and pharmacist established? [Minor Essential Revisions]

3. There are several instances where heavy research documentation were cited by the respondents. It is not clear however from the manuscript about the nature of data collected or its intensity. This could be inserted in the methodology section. [Major Compulsory Revisions]

4. A paragraph/table describing the characteristic of participants and their pharmacy should be included in the results section. This might help readers to see the context of their perceptions e.g. maybe the logistic issue arises because of their smaller pharmacy? [Major Compulsory Revisions]

5. Pp15 - 16 gives an interesting insight of the challenges such research can be on interprofessional collaboration. Can stronger rapport with GP facilitate the communication? [Discretionary Revisions]

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 that I have no competing interests