Reviewer's report

Title: Introducing Peer Worker roles into UK mental health service teams: a qualitative analysis of the organisational benefits and challenges

Version: 3 Date: 30 April 2013

Reviewer: Sandra Moll

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. When providing background information at the start of the paper, you outline a number of organizational benefits and challenges of peer workers in mental health services. Suggest removing the line “we use this literature to provide a relevant conceptual underpinning to our analysis” since it seems confusing here. Also, need to add some analysis of what is lacking in the literature since you state later in your “aims” that there is a lack of a more established evidence base.

2. In presenting quotes in the study findings, use only one quote at a time. In many cases, the second quote not needed. If you want to include the second quote, need to provide some context for the new information that it adds. Overall, the introductions to the quotes are much clearer and illustrate the analytic comments made by the authors. I appreciate the work that the authors have done in pulling out the key ideas to “tell the story” for a organizational audience.

Discretionary Revisions

Page 27 -2nd line of first paragraph –change “learnt” to “learned”

I have a question about whether the identity of the programs need to be further concealed. Since I am not familiar with the mental health system in the UK, perhaps there is sufficient anonymity already, but I was aware as reading through the findings that there were problems in particular programs with the staff and peer providers. It will be important to ensure anonymity as much as possible to avoid tensions between the programs.

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.