Reviewer’s report

Title: Can a theory-based educational intervention change nurses' knowledge and attitudes concerning cancer pain management? A quasi-experimental design

Version: 1 Date: 13 June 2013

Reviewer: Margaret Fitch

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. I found the manuscript to be well written and clear. The questions posed by the authors are clear and well defined. The background rationale is summarized clearly and supports the approaches utilized in the work. I think the topic is an important and the paper provides a good model for future authors to consider using as a guide for their work. The methods are appropriate for the research question posed and the application of those methods is well described. The results are presented clearly and the discussion is based on and does not exceed the results.

The major concern is, as the authors indicated, the low sample size in the final analysis. However, I believe the authors paid close attention to this issue and entertained discussion about it appropriately. Clearly this work provides a good illustration regarding the difficulty implementing education programs in the current world of a busy clinical setting. The authors have been cautious in their claims and emphasized the need for future work in this area,

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 have no competing interests.