Reviewer's report

Title: Modular health services: A single case study approach to the application of modularity to residential mental healthcare

Version: 1 Date: 4 October 2013

Reviewer: Hiroto Ito

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Major Compulsory Revisions

This study aims to examine feasibility to apply the Operations Management concept of modularity to the residential care in Netherland. Although the manuscript contains important issues, it needs to be reorganized considerably.

Firstly, it does not seem to be a process to apply the Operations Management (OM) concept to the residential care. Referring to the description in the limitations (page 19) that “the modularity ‘vocabulary’ was not known to the interviewees,” it should be considered that the OM concept was not well introduced in the residential care. If the residential care has existed before authors introduced the OM concept, it might be acceptable to describe that authors has actually reorganized the residential care service from the stand point of the OM concept.

Secondly, the manuscript should start from a precise description of the residential care service, and then discuss the service components using the OM concept.

Finally, it is unclear how the results described in the manuscript would contribute to the improvement of mental health policy and service provisions. Without suggestive implications to readers of the BMC Health Services Research, it is better for the manuscript to be appeared in other journals.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

Non, declared.