Reviewer’s report

Title: Patient Involvement in Medical Decision-Making and Pain among Elders: Physician or Patient-Driven?

Version: 1 Date: 19 July 2004

Reviewer: Christopher Sciamanna

Reviewer’s report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

--there needs to be a more thorough discussion of what other investigators have found regarding the link between patient involvement (or physician involvement). several studies are mentioned in the background, but no mention is made as to how the present results relate to or support the results of other investigators.
--no mention is made of in any past studies that may have tried to modify patient involvement, if any such studies exist.
--the majority of subjects in the cohort were lost to follow-up, so that the findings may not be generalizable to any particular group.
--it was impossible to check any of the citations because they appeared as numbers in the text but at the end of the paper they were alphabetized.
--there should be some discussion of the factor itself. what was the alpha? what was done in the study(ies) from which the measure was adapted? what did it correlate with in those studies? also, how was the measure adapted?

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No
Declaration of competing interests:

None