Reviewer's report

Title: The quality of communication about older patients between hospital physicians and general practitioners: a panel study assessment

Version: 2 Date: 12 June 2007

Reviewer: Henk GA Mokkink

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)

In the discussion attention should be paid to the limitations of this study, especially to the validity of the unreliable data and to the generalizability of the findings based on data from one hospital. Some of the conclusions (e.g. that "the referral letters were of inappropriate quality", pag 9) are based on data gathered with an instrument of poor to moderate reliability. This should be discussed.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'