Reviewer's report

Title: Self-reported diabetes is associated with self-management behaviour: a cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 15 March 2008

Reviewer: Gail Melkus

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Discretionary Revision

1. While the authors suggest that lack of such testing may be an indicator for more diabetes education and counseling, it may also be a red flag for provider practice patterns and communication.

2. How patients were told of their diabetes is not known despite the fact that a diagnosis of diabetes may have been charted by the health care provider. This point is not raised and perhaps should be.

3. Perhaps the survey findings would be different if individuals were asked, has a health care provider ever told you that you have high blood sugar and that you need to change your diet etc.? Thus, the discussion is skewed.

4. As noted by the authors, in individuals younger than 65 years the cost of blood glucose testing may be prohibitive and may be a cause for the downplay of diabetes diagnosis. This suggest policy implications that were also not noted. The take away for me as a reader is why do so many with diabetes NOT report having it?

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: 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.