Reviewer’s report

Title: Developing and testing an instrument to measure the presence of conditions for successful implementation of quality improvement collaboratives

Version: 2 Date: 5 June 2008

Reviewer: Dimitris Niakas

Reviewer’s report:

The larger sample (N=165) used in this version of the paper has lead to a significant improvement to many aspects of the study. The proposed instrument is more concise and focused and evidence supporting its construct validity and reliability has been satisfactorily provided. In general, the authors have done a good job in addressing my initial concerns.

I still remain skeptical if the instrument which has changed in the second version by the authors, will actually measure the three theoretical constructs defined, which according to the authors (and the literature) contribute to successful implementation of QIC projects. To assess this, collection of additional measurable outcomes is required, which can be associated with the surveys and subsequently analysed. Although, the authors mention that such data is not yet available, they explicitly acknowledge (in the Conclusion) that outcome data may be helpful in explaining, or even predicting the amount of success, perhaps implying that they intend to deal with this issue in the future.

In light of all of the above, I find this paper to be publishable in its current form.

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