Reviewer's report

Title: Factors Contributing to Attrition Behavior in Diabetes Self-management Programs: A Mixed Method Approach

Version: 1 Date: 1 October 2007

Reviewer: Mary K Rhee

Reviewer's report:

General

Gucciardi et al conducted a cross-sectional study to investigate factors that may contribute to attrition behavior in attending education sessions for diabetes self-management (DSME) using both quantitative and qualitative approaches, as well as the Behavioral Model of Health Service Utilization. Their objective was well-defined, but presents a slightly new approach to assessing attrition, specifically to attendance of education sessions. Their methods were appropriate, and the discussion was thorough.

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

None.

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

1. page 7, 2nd paragraph: The authors speculate that "employment status is an intermediary variable, in that having English as one’s primary language or an education level of grade nine or higher may enable one to get employment, but working full or part-time is a barrier to ongoing use of services." One way to analyze this hypothesis is to include interaction terms for employment and education and for employment and primary language in the multivariable regression analysis.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

None.

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:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests.