Reviewer’s report

Title: Bridging the Care Continuum: Patient Information Needs for Specialist Referrals

Version: 3 Date: 5 August 2009

Reviewer: Christopher B Forrest

Reviewer’s report:

I greatly appreciate the work that the authors have undertaken to reshape this manuscript. I think it will make an important addition to the literature, particularly because of the attention to and discussion of the psychometric properties of the instruments. I hope the authors continue to use these instruments in further studies.

Two Discretionary Comments:

1 - There is a balance that I would encourage you to find between presentation of a data analysis section that describes the procedures used and the results. As it stands now, just about all the procedures are described in the results section. I think you can find a balance that moves more of the procedural matters to the data analysis sub-section.

2 - The trust logistic regressions: The "factors" were presumably entered into the analysis as continuous variables. That assumes that the linear change in estimate probability of high trust is the same across all integer values of the factors. Is that assumption supported? I wonder if simply dichotomizing the scales would clear this up.

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.