Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge in process? Exploring barriers between epidemiological research and local health policy development.

Version: 4 Date: 18 March 2010

Reviewer: Evelyne EL de Leeuw

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is much improved since the first version, but I still feel that it is incredibly tentative in its ‘framework’. The figure would – in my view – only give a generic logic how this would work. I am, to be honest, also disappointed (of course....) that the authors have not bothered to take a look at our work (1) and subsequently perhaps request a copy of the much bigger empirical report it was based on (2) - as a reviewer having made my hands dirty ‘at the coalface’ I don’t think the current piece doesn’t add too much to what we’ve already observed.

This might become different if the authors would add much more specificity how exactly their findings from now on would be applied in local health in The Netherlands; they might want to use any of the seven domains that we have already described – or further elaborate their own framework!


(2) De Leeuw, Evelyne, Andrew McNess, Karen Stagnitti & Beth Crisp (2007) It’s research, Jim, but not as we know it. Acting at the Nexus. Integration of research, policy and practice. Final report, August 2007, VicHealth/Deakin University, Melbourne Australia

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:

No real competing interests, although I know and like the authors!