Reviewer's report

Title: Integrated post-discharge transition care in a hospitalist system: disease-specific care and referral

Version: 3 Date: 19 May 2011

Reviewer: Jeff Greenwald

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for working on this revision. I continue to be impressed with concepts included in the intervention bundle. I do continue to have a number of significant concerns.

The first major one is your study design. As noted in prior comments, this type of study had methodological limitations that you cannot escape by now calling it a QI project. That is not legitimate. If it were a QI project, you’d need to use a standard QI reporting methodology (e.g. SQUIRE). Also, you noted in your response to my comments that you added additional exclusions to your criteria based on my comments. You cannot do that post hoc.

I think this study has merits and probably should be condensed to either a poster/abstract or perhaps, with some more rigorous review, a brief report. You also need to have the English re-reviewed as there are awkward sections still.

I have embedded many other less critical comments in the text.

Thanks for the opportunity to review this.

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.

Jeff Greenwald