Reviewer’s report

Title: Who is the research subject in cluster randomized trials in health research?

Version: 2 Date: 23 April 2011

Reviewer: Charlie Goldsmith

Reviewer’s report:

In general, the suggestions made by the 3 reviewers have been well handled. Attached is a series of other issues to be considered.


2. Page 11, p 1, l 3. In the spirit of gender neutral language, suggest replacing [her] by [the] just like p 11, p 3, l 8. Also, Page 13, p 2, l 4 in the quote, suggest rewriting as [# to meet# the individual#s #needs, #] so that it is clear that you are changing the quote to comply with the neutral concept. Also, Page 19, p 3, l 1 of quote, suggest rewriting as [# proceeds in# the physician#s #interaction with a patient to bring what# the physician #considers #]. Also Page 19, p 4, l 1, suggest replacing [her] by [the] and on l 2 replacing both [her] and [she] by [the [physician]. Also Page 20 p 1, l 2, suggest replacing [her] by [the physician#s]. Also Page 38, Item 2, l 2, suggest replacing [his/her] by [the individual#s].

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests