Reviewer's report

Title: Recruiting South Asians to a lifestyle intervention trial: experiences and lessons from PODOSA (Prevention of Diabetes & Obesity in South Asians)

Version: 1 Date: 11 July 2011

Reviewer: Janet Dunn

Reviewer's report:

Overall this is a clearly presented paper addressing recruitment issues for South Asians to a lifestyle intervention trial. It is important to publish this type of paper which informs future researchers of the problems encountered. The main trial is not yet reported as it is due to complete October 2012.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. More detail in the methods section 3(b) Marketing Agency would be helpful. What was the marketing campaign they initiated?

2. Table 1 and Figure 1 could be combined into Figure 1. At the moment it is not clear from Figure 1 how many people were randomised to each group. I know this is not the main purpose of this paper but it would complete the picture. I suggest the 4 bullet points for eligibility are included in the 'total potential participants....n>2089' box and some of the methods bullet points included in the text or after the 'recruits with IGT/IFG randomised into trial n=171' box with two extra boxes to demonstrate final numbers randomised in the two arms. Obviously a full consort diagram can not be presented at this stage as the trial has not yet completed.

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests