Reviewer’s report

Title: An educational intervention study to reduce the use of potentially inappropriate medications among older adults (EMPOWER study): Study protocol for a cluster randomized trial.

Version: 1 Date: 26 February 2013

Reviewer: Cindy Cooper

Reviewer’s report:

The design is robust and clearly described. The randomisation procedure in particular is strong for a cluster randomised design. The protocol is very detailed allowing replication.

As outcomes at 12 months are to be observed it would have been preferable if the control (waiting) arm received the intervention after 12 months but I assume this was limited by practical considerations. As the primary outcome is at 6 months the study design is appropriate to test the hypothesis.

The writing is of good quality.

Conditional on review of the analysis section by a statistician this is acceptable for publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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'