Reviewer's report

Title: Determinants of the implementation of a lifestyle counseling program in patients with venous leg ulcers: a multiple case study

Version: 2 Date: 16 March 2012

Reviewer: Nicky Cullum

Reviewer's report:

This paper is substantially improved now and is able to make a much greater contribution to knowledge in the field because of the extra detail. It also seems MUCH more readable.

Minor Essential Revisions:
I have put some grammatical and wording suggestions in “sticky notes” in the PDF – for example the authors frequently use the word “data” as singular rather than plural.

There is some stuff about the evidence for Lively Legs that should be in the Background rather than the Methods. The Methods should contain detail about the intervention as delivered but not the history of it and related evidence.

Discretionary Revisions:
I would really like the authors to consider stepping back slightly in the Discussion/Conclusions from Lively Legs and saying something about how the care of people with leg ulcers is organised and the quality of its delivery. For me the strongest message of this paper is that Lively Legs was so difficult to recruit to/implement BECAUSE of the way leg ulcer care is fragmented and issues surrounding that. This raises big questions about the quality of care currently received which could be at least hinted at. The stand out quote for me on Page 17 was:

In one case a homecare nurse discovered that one of the patients did not have compression therapy or stockings. “I don’t dare to say that she should have had them. Because, well … I don’t even know if she’s had the right diagnostics. I don’t think so.” (case 1, nurse practitioner).

I recommend that the paper is accepted after minor essential revisions (which the authors can be trusted to make)

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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