Reviewer's report

Title: Translating evidence into practice: the role of health research funders

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Reviewer: Vicky Ward

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Overall I find this paper to be a well thought-through discussion of a neglected area - the role of research funders in KT. The authors description of their approach is clear and provides much food for thought. As such, I think it would be a worthwhile addition to the portfolio of papers published within Implementation Science.

I have two comments to the authors, which may help to improve the paper. First, I would like to see more detail on how the key functional areas and observations were identified - clearer examples of, for instance, specific activities which have given rise to these observations would be useful. Second, the authors draw out some very useful observations, but these could be strengthened by drawing on a wider range of literature. In particular, their observation about the differences between information and knowledge is a major issue within the implementation literature, which frequently ignores this distinction. They could provide much more detail in relation to this observation and draw on a wider range of sociological literature. Lindblom and Cohen's distinction between professionally produced and ordinary knowledge may be useful here. For an example of what I mean, please see Ward, V., Smith, S., House, A., & Hamer, S. Exploring knowledge exchange: A useful framework for practice and policy. Social Science & Medicine, 2012, 74(3), 297-304.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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 that I have no competing interests'