Reviewer's report

Title: Development of a behaviour change intervention: a case study on the practical application of theory

Version: 2  Date: 24 January 2014

Reviewer: Lou Atkins

Reviewer's report:

The paper describes the development of the theory-based intervention to change GP behaviour to deliver an enhanced-support intervention (MOSAICS) for self-management for people with osteoarthritis (OA). I suggest the following minor essential revisions:

Abstract

The sentence “Evaluation of the behaviour change intervention included…” give the impression the paper will report substantive findings of the evaluation. If the finding is the identified evaluation measures can the authors make this clearer?

In the abstract results I would suggest summarising TDF domains identified as relevant and BCTs delivered as part of the intervention.

Methods

Applying the models: Can the authors provide more information on the data collection process I step 1 and 2, for example how many GPs whose responses were coded using the TDF were interviewed? Where they considered to be a representative sample of GPs who will deliver the MOSAICS intervention?

Can the authors append the interview schedule or topic guide that was used to collect the data described in Step 2?

Results

Step 3 – Can this sentence reference the 2008 paper “The starting point was the list of techniques which Michie et al had judged appropriate to effect change in the domains identified in step 2.

Boxes

In Box 2 can the authors provide definitions along with the theory domain names?

Tables

In the interest of concise reporting could tables 2 and 3 be merged (I would suggest omitting the timing column from table 3)

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:**

n/a