Reviewer’s report

Title: Parents’ perceptions on offspring risk and prevention of anxiety and depression: A Qualitative Study

Version: 1 Date: 28 March 2014

Reviewer: Helen M Correia

Reviewer’s report:

Generally, the study makes an important contribution to the field, not only in relation to parental perspectives on participation in preventive programs, but also more generally to the potential improvements in completion and quality of RCT’s. The authors efforts and attempts to identify how participation and engagement in the research process and interventions can be enhanced is a task rarely undertaken (or at least rarely published), and this should be recognised. In addition, the commitment to the process of including parents as co-researchers/interviewers as part of the qualitative approach should be acknowledged.

Some revisions are suggested/needed. These are broadly stated below and clarified in an attachment.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. The language in which interviews were conducted and analysed (as well as translated etc) should be stated
2. Description of previous literature (Stallard et al 2004) may be incorrect
3. The process around selection of participants and saturation needs to be more clearly articulated
4-6. Aspects of the process of data analysis need to be more clearly articulated, including an examination (or rationale) of why a grounded approach fits this particular study

Discretionary revisions
7. Clarification for why some of the questions were included would be useful
8. The results could be restructured, combining some of the domains which contain overlapping themes
9-10. Some of the theme labels could be re-considered to better reflect the content of the themes (in text and in tables)
11-14. Some clarifications may be beneficial (eg improving interpretation of quotes, summarising of key themes identified in tables).

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