Reviewer's report

Title: The Utility of PerSonal Activity Trackers (Fitbit Charge 2) on Exercise Capacity in Patients Post Acute Coronary Syndrome [UP-STEP ACS Trial]: A Randomised Controlled Trial Protocol

Version: 0 Date: 09 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Elisabetta Tonet

Reviewer's report:

This is a study protocol about the utility and impact on exercise capacity of personal activity trackers in patient's post acute coronary syndrome. Some observations:

- Could you describe with more details the kind of physical exercise prescribed to patients (treadmill or cyclette or calisthenic exercises..) during cardiac rehabilitation sessions?

- The importance of patients' motivation is well stressed in the manuscript. Have you considered for example the Prochaska transtheoretical model to evaluate patients' motivation? It is declared that a low level of physical activity pre-admission to the hospital is considered as inclusion criterium. Sometimes a low level of physical activity is a result of different factors, such as symptoms that limit and demotivate patients. Why is the EMI-2 questionnaire not also evaluated at the moment of enrolment?

- Have you considered some comorbidities that can limit physical activity level despite patients' motivation such as BPCO?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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