Reviewer's report

Title: Stakeholder Opinion on the proposal to introduce 'Treat and Referral' into the Irish Emergency Medical Service.

Version: 0 Date: 11 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Magnus Andersson Hagiwara

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Stakeholder Opinion on the proposal to introduce 'Treat and Referral' into the Irish Emergency Medical Service.

Review

Dear authors,

Thanks for the opportunity to review yours manuscript. It is nice to see that you starting this important process to develop and implement a treat and referral protocol to the EMS organisations with a survey of stakeholder's opinions. The study is well executed and the manuscript is well written. I have only minor comments which hopefully can improve the manuscript further.

Abstract:

The abstract is well written but you use some abbreviations without spelling it out. Please, spell out the abbreviation first time in use. Example: ED, EM, PHECC, GP.

Main manuscript

Background

The background is well written and includes the most relevant references. However, I miss a description of Irish paramedic's education. Are they on Bachelor level? What is the difference between paramedic and advanced paramedic? Are all ambulances staffed with paramedic or is there also emergency medical technicians (EMT) with a shorter education? What is the proportion between the different EMS clinician's?

I think this is important to understand in context of treat and referral options.

- Page 4, Line 34, please spell out PCI first time in use.
- Page 5, Line 51, please spell out GP first time in use.
- Page 6, Line 12-27. These paragraphs fits better in the method section.

Methods

I recommend to use subheadings such as:

* Design
* Participant and setting
* Instrument
* Analysis
* Ethic

It would help the reader to understand your study.

RESULTS

Same here. Subheading such as demographics, response rates, survey answers and so on would make the results easier to read.

- Page 9, Line 56-59. This kind of statement fits better in the result discussion.

DISCUSSION, Study Limitations and CONCLUSION

I have no comments on this sections. Informative, good references and well written.

References

The references is not entirely in according to the journals recommendation. For example there should be no italic style and no parentheses.


Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No
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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