Reviewer's report

Title: Strategies for Recruitment and Retention of Underrepresented Populations with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease for a Clinical Trial

Version: 0 Date: 03 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Susana Garcia-Gutierrez

Reviewer's report:

I think this is an exhaustive revision of strategies for recruitment and retention of underrepresented populations with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease for a randomized clinical trial, based on an interventional study performed by the authors with the aim of improve the management of COPD in a population of vulnerable patients. Authors present a well-written inform about the strategies they followed with the aim of recruit and retent their "vulnerable" sample in AIR-study.

My recommendation is to accept the manuscript but some questions should be addressed prior to the acceptance:

1.-With the aim to fit the journal scope, they should present their results divided into those related to the experience and opinions of their ways of recruitment and retention strategies and, on the other side, "objective" results , that is, how the methodological questions were related to the main outcomes (recruitment and retention taxes). I recommend these questions should be note from the abstract to the end of the manuscript, with specific mention to the outcome "recruitment and retention taxes".

2.-I miss a more exhaustive analysis about the characteristics of those who completed the study. Was it no possible to perform a multivariate model being depending variable "completion" and independent variables those shown in table 4. I miss the influence of the "reference setting" in this table, I don’t know if the fact of belonging to an specific center was related to the outcome.

3.-Discussion must be focus on the feasibility of the strategies presented. -Authors should make an effort to recommend a minimal set of strategies, that is, those which they would consider feasible and more likely to be key for the completion of the studies. -In spite of justification of the response rate, who is higher comparing to other studies , stronger discussion should be presented, for instance, giving recommendations to achieve a goal of at least 70% in future studies.

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.

Unable to assess

**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

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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