Reviewer’s report

Title: Best practices for collecting repeated measures data using text messages

Version: 1 Date: 23 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Maurice Mars

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to re-review this paper providing recommendations for using text messages and replies for gathering patient information. The paper is much improved by the addition of the literature review.

As this was not a systematic review what type of review was undertaken?

The literature review needs to be described in more detail so that it can be replicated. More information is needed on the search terms and inclusion and exclusion criteria. For example, "data collection" is a MESH term as is "data collection". A search using ("Text Messaging"[Mesh] AND ("data collection"[Mesh])) returned over 730 papers. A search using what I think has been described in the methods, (("Text Messaging"[Mesh] OR "text messages") AND ("data collection"[Mesh] OR "data collection")) returns over 970 papers. How was were the 204 papers mentioned in the results obtained? I could not replicate the search.

A PRISMA figure would add value.

The paper still has no stated aim.

While I appreciate that the purpose of the paper is to share experience there are issues that have not been covered. The text message responses are patient generated health data. As such there are associated legal and ethical issues. What advice do the authors have on data security and what are patients told about data transmission, security, storage and who will have access to the data. Are the data encrypted during transmission? Do messages pass through external servers? Are they stored in the external servers? Issues of HIPAA and GDPR compliance should at least be mentioned.
The recommendations are useful.

Page 6, line 106: "(can cite here all the studies that have high response rate)" appears to be comment between authors and not part of the paper.

Page 6, lines 108-109: "…with only two participants responding less than 10 times minutes." What does this mean?

Page 6, line 109: IBS should be in given in full.

**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.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable
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