Reviewer’s report

Title: The Methods and Baseline Characteristics of a VA Randomized Controlled Study Evaluating Supported Employment Provided in Primary Care Patient Aligned Care Teams

Version: 0 Date: 12 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Lance Goetz

Reviewer's report:

This article concerns an important clinical topic both within and outside of veterans healthcare in the US: employment of persons with disabilities (in this case mental). Randomized trials of newer vocational rehabilitation approaches are becoming used increasingly to demonstrate effectiveness versus usual care. The authors outline the methods used and baseline characteristics of their sample for this RCT.

The methods appear carefully designed with appropriate statistical approaches. I do not see obvious problems with randomization or subject selection. Since this is a methods journal, I am not sure how much concern the journal has for the subject matter in the discussion, as opposed to a discussion of any methodological challenges/limitations, which the authors do not list.

I am submitting line by line edits which are mostly for grammar and clarity as below. The English is good but the article needed a careful read in this regard.

Line 70 out "Roll out (I think you could replace with more technical terminology) e.g. disseminated, implemented
74 historically have been
85 broad range OF
96 reference needed here if possible
102 hours/week defined below
100 as-usual VR (further defined below)
105 fidelity defined below
109 change to just "a broad range"

137 TAU not TUA
155 sexual orientation?
160 assignment or…(eg outside referrals, state VR?)
165 assessment, which
181 did you use Lepage's form? Reference?
231 assure that THE patient
232 get$2
252 expand: in the community, not sheltered work
262 services. However, OR services; however,
266 …. transitional work is the belief that clients (belief not borne out of evidence, correct?)
290 "does not receiving" does not receive
(i.e should score <55...)
295 statistical power required or necessary to test

310 steady worker (primary outcome success),
330 "the sequentially rejective procedure" --- is it "the" procedure or "a" procedure? Are there a variety
of these types of sequentially rejective procedures used?
390 year 1:
435 this looks like a statement, not a question—remove question mark
443 built-in

**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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