Reviewer's report

Title: The implementation and sustainability of a combined lifestyle intervention in primary care: mixed method process evaluation

Version: 2 Date: 9 December 2014

Reviewer: Aileen Grant

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. I appreciate the authors have analysed this data before the trial outcome was known but I think the reader needs to be informed of the timing of the data collection and analysis way before the last paragraph.

2. There is not a clear description of the intervention, trial or outcome measures. A table of the characteristics of the intervention, highlighting the differences between the supervised and less intensive program would be really useful and a brief description of the trial including the trial result, if known.

3. Consistent use of language of intervention and control would also aid reading.

4. It is not clear why one theoretical framework was not used. The rationale for combining frameworks should be made clear. How was their framework developed?

5. A brief description of the questionnaire is required. Was it developed especially or did the authors use an existing questionnaire. If developed, information about the development process would enhance credibility, such as was it piloted?

6. What does F4 mean? Line 204

7. Identifiers for the quotes are required.

8. A description of what has been offered in the past could aid the reader. A timeline of similar interventions would be useful.

9. This discussion misses the 'so what', what are the lessons from this evaluation?

10. No discussion about contamination with HCCs offering the intervention prior to the trial.

11. Nothing about strengths or weaknesses of methods

Minor Essential revisions
Line 78 - Please say the intervention will be described more overleaf.
Line 149 - A sentence to say the framework is about to be described would be useful.
Line 168 - What is the underlying theory and philosophy?
Line 211-212 - I do not know what is meant by "all transcriptions were analysed
by means of the definitive node tree". Please more clearly specify.

Line 372 - Who were the drop outs registered with?

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests