Reviewer’s report

Title: Interprofessional collaboration in nursing homes (interprof): Development and piloting of measures to improve interprofessional collaboration and communication: A qualitative multicentre study

Version: 0 Date: 14 Jan 2017

Reviewer: Agnes Tiwari

Reviewer’s report:

Interprofessional collaboration and communication between doctors and nurses directly or indirectly impact on client care. The manuscript which reports on the development and piloting of measures to improve interprofessional collaboration and communication has the potential of contributing to improvement in practice. However, in its present form, the manuscript has a number of major flaws thus affecting its scientific merits. I would like to offer the following comments for the authors' consideration:

1. What is the focus of this manuscript? In some places, it appears to be the development of measures (abstract: 18-19), however, in other places, it appears to be an evaluation of the measures (p.17:9). Because of this confusion, it is not possible to understand the results as reported.

2. Methods: P.5 As stated above, the methodology as described appears to be for developing measures to improve collaboration. But, in the introduction, the authors stated that the measures were implemented and evaluated qualitatively (p.5:23-24). It is also unclear as to whether the two study parts (p.5:45-59) are processes of measures development or evaluation. How the data were analysed was not explained.

3. Results: It appears that the results section is a description of what was done and who participated. If the focus of the study is to develop measures to improve interprofessional collaboration and communication, there should be a clearer explanation of the measures and its development. If the focus is to evaluate the measures, this should be made explicit. As it is now, one is unable to understand the results.

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.

No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons
CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal.