Reviewer’s report

Title: Helpful ways providers can communicate about persistent medically unexplained physical symptoms

Version: 1 Date: 10 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Vojislav Ivetić

Reviewer's report:

BACKGROUND

OK!

METHOD

Page 4, Line 56: Can you add reference for »…This is secondary analysis from an on-going randomized controlled trial comparing Problem-Solving Treatment (PST) to Health Education (NCT02161133),…« ? Or, if this trial is still not published, explain more with a sentence or two…

Page 5, Line 9: You mention »…Subjects included the first 210 Gulf War Veterans…« How many veterans were invited? Did everyone accept the cooperation? Please, complete,…

Page 5, Line 50: You mention: "…two coders individually coded 40 additional responses to establish«. Please add a initials of coders as you use in previous text!

DISCUSSION

Page 8, Line: 15: You mention »…Such findings are consistent with previous literature that suggests patients are looking for discussion that are non- judgmental and actionable,…« Please add a reference for a »previous literature«,…

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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