Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of delayed antibiotic prescription in primary care: a cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 21 May 2018

Reviewer: Amy Halls

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for this paper - it was a good read, and interesting to hear about the use of delayed prescribing in a different country. Please see my comments below:

P3 line 43 - 'most also perceived patients' - how did they perceive this?

P3L46 - are these nurses nurse prescribers? Not sure if there is different terminology in the different settings?

P5L79 - 'our group' - not sure who this is. Authors? Wider research group?

P7L113 - proofread 'was used to run...was run' and also please clarify the contact time - 2 week intervals following initial contact?

P7 results paragraph - response rate of 56% could be mentioned further in the discussion. Was this seen as an acceptable response rate, will it have impacted on the results? What have response rates been like in other comparable studies? Regarding mean age of respondents, what is the 10.1 years given in the brackets?

P9L141 - what 'other strategies' were used?

P11L190 - how was it perceived that patients were broadly satisfied? Were they officially asked? Was it just a perception? Could this percentage actually be higher or lower and what impact would this have? Is there a way that this could be investigated further?

P11L206 - How to determine the baseline situation of a country?

P13 implications for practice and research paragraph - the sentence on the importance to foster awareness of DAP is key, I think, and could be brought out more. Future research on patient perspectives, particularly as the paper refers to doctor perceptions of patients' views, not the patients themselves. Also, is there information available on how many patients actually use the delayed prescription? The literature cited within the text contains studies on DAP in other countries such as the UK - is there a difference between future research and implications for practice within Spain (where it is less common) and in other countries? Could be greater clarity here.
This is a well-written paper, which could be tightened up and also needs to be proofread to avoid typographical errors.

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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