**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** The association between PaTz and improved palliative care in the primary care setting: a cross-sectional survey.

**Version: 0 Date: 27 Feb 2019**

**Reviewer:** Rosemary Ann Frey

**Reviewer’s report:**

Thank you for the opportunity to review your article on the association between PaTz and improved palliative care in the primary care setting. While the topic is of interest to the health care community I feel that there are a number of areas where further detail is needed before the article is acceptable for publication. I have outline my comments/suggestions for each section of the manuscript below:

**Abstract**

PaTz PAlliative ThuisZorg (palliative care at home) What Pa Tz stands for should be included in the title and Pa Tz should be defined in the background in the abstract

Location of the study should be specified in the background or methods section of the abstract

How was the questionnaire link distributed?

GPs and DNs should be spelled out.

**Background**

Please define the Gold Standards Framework briefly.

Numbers under ten should be written in words rather than as numerals.

Do not include personal actions in the background only peer reviewed research.

Study population - What was the estimated population eligible to participate?

Please specify the outcomes you are comparing,

Method - what was the rationale for dichotomizing the responses?

Inclusion criteria - how did you define experience with palliative care?
You have not addressed ethical issues in this manuscript only in the declaration as a single statement.

Please provide details on the psychometric properties of the measures. Were the questions adapted from previous measures or were they created for this study?

Statistical analysis - please explain what you mean by crude analysis?

What do you mean by adjusted analysis?

What is the outcome variable for the logistic regression? Participation/non-participation. Determining factors associated with participation was not clearly stated as an objective. Suggest analyses should be aligned with the stated objectives.

Why didn't you weight the cases in the analysis? Weighting is used to adjust the results of a study to bring them more in line with what is known about a population. For example, if a sample contains 40% males and the population contains 49% males weighting can be used to correct the data to correct for this discrepancy.

What was the level of statistical significance set .05? .001?

Logistic regression tests for multicollinearity?

Results please define what you mean by care home. Do you mean long-term care? Terminology varies by country.

Table 4 Normally only the final model is presented.

Discussion lacks depth and would benefit from more reference to the literature.

Areas for future research should not be included in the conclusion

**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.

Yes

**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.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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