Reviewer’s report

Title: Understanding primary care-oncology relationships within a changing healthcare environment

Version: 0 Date: 22 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Tim Holt

Reviewer's report:

I enjoyed reading this paper which describes a qualitative study investigating relationships between primary care and oncology services in the US. It involved extensive interviews with providers.

The design of the study was appropriate although the authors acknowledge the limitation that certain types of health care organisational structure (eg Kaiser) were not represented. It would also in my view have been useful to include some patient perspectives.

The conclusions seem valid across the US health systems represented. It is less clear how generalisable they are at an international level. If aimed at an international readership then certain terms might need explaining - for instance, I was unclear what exactly is meant by physicians 'rounding'.

It was also unclear to me to what extent the conclusions were specific to oncology and whether in fact they apply throughout the primary care/hospital interface, for instance the use of electronic health records which facilitate communication between colleagues. This might have usefully entered the Discussion.
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.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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