Reviewer's report

Title: Even the best laid plans: a qualitative study of older adults' experience transitioning to wheelchair use

Version: 2 Date: 25 March 2015

Reviewer: Amol Karmarkar

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript titled “Navigating uncharted territory: a qualitative study of older adults' experience transitioning to wheelchair use” reported results from a qualitative study of wheelchair users and caregivers. Below find overall comments and related to specific sections of the manuscript.

Overall Minor Essential Revisions

1. The way manuscript written it seems the study is focusing on older adults who recently transitioned to using wheelchair, which in fact not the case. The wheelchair users part of this study are considered as experienced users. Thus the authors should try to reword sentences in the manuscript to make this point clear that, the study is about exploring experiences for wheelchair users when they transition to wheelchair use.

2. It would be helpful for readers to have a table summarizing all the themes and sub-themes that emerged out of the focus group.

3. From the manuscript it looks like this study was conducted to provide in depth understanding for designing a larger study for wheelchair users related to wheelchair skills training. However, this point is not coming across in the conclusion section of the manuscript, neither reflected well in the discussion section. The authors should add such description in both discussion and conclusion section.

Abstract:
None.

Introduction:
None.

Methods:
Move description related to IRB approval process in the beginning of the methods section.

Results:
None.

Discussion:
As mentioned in the overall comments section, there needs a better connection
between the overarching objective of this study to information provided in the discussion/conclusion section. In the current format, description related to need of wheelchair training program, and how this study can guide development of such program is limited.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests