Reviewer’s report

Title: How to achieve the desired outcomes of advance care planning in nursing homes: a Theory of Change

Version: 0 Date: 05 May 2017

Reviewer: Helen Y.L. Chan

Reviewer's report:

This study is timely and important to improve the current development of ACP. The authors have identified a number of preconditions and key components for effective ACP intervention. The paper is generally clear using a systematic mapping method.

I am just a bit confused with the word "workshop". I have misunderstood them as some didactic teaching for the participants, but it seems that they are some kind of focus group interviews. Also, as stated in p.7, some of them attended both workshops. Please state the reasons and so what are the actual number of participants for this study? We cannot see the duplicate from the table either.

It would be good for the manuscript to undergo English editing as some parts, for example, the abstract can be more concise to bring out the message clearer and more directly.

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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