Reviewer's report
Title: Treatment in the STAMPEDE era for castrate resistant prostate cancer in the UK: ongoing challenges and underappreciated clinical problems

Version: 1 Date: 08 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Jennifer Cullen

Reviewer's report:
This study is a unique and timely examination of health care practitioners (HCPs) in the UK, interviewed to improve understanding of the implications of the results that the STAMPEDE and CHAARTED trials have had on caring for prostate cancer patients with castrate resistant disease. The authors present thematic data from these structured interviews of HCPs, revealing critically important topics that need to be addressed, not only to better serve the patient and improve QOL outcomes but to shed light on optimal sequencing and treatment types, as well as shortfalls in care and communications across medical specialty disciplines.

The paper offers novel and important findings to the fields. It is well written. There are only a few minor revisions recommended. They include:

1. Please define acronym "NHS" in Introduction (page 2, line 43)
2. In culling themes, when selecting statistical techniques to mine the data and develop themes, could other techniques have been implemented? What were limitations or strengths to the approaches taken?
3. Interviews were conducted between Dec 2015 and May 2016. Were there any major shifts in expert guidelines or practice patterns that could have affected responses? (timing of seminal publications in the field).
4. Several uses of "data" as a singular term--please correct--e.g., Page 3, lines 10 and lines 43-44: change from "Data is/was" to "data are/were".
5. Among professions included for interview, why not radiation oncologists?
6. Of the 78 HCPs approached, 49 (63%) expressed interest. Were there any data collected on reason for refusal to participate/lack of interest? Could there have been any bias introduced by differences in those who expressed interest versus those who did not?

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.
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:

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