Reviewer’s report

Title: The clinical practice guideline Palliative care for children and other strategies to enhance shared decision-making in pediatric palliative care; pediatricians’ critical reflections

Version: 1 Date: 27 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Gregory Moore

Reviewer's report:

Overall:

The changes have improved the manuscript quite a bit. There remain some (and I've noted some of them below) notable grammatical issues, which affect the readability and the ability to comprehend what is being written. Also, one comment I've made below in the Background section (re: pg 6 line 18) remains an issue I think should be addressed further. But it is somewhat about the semantics of how things are written, so I would leave it in the Editor's hands to make a decision as to whether any further changes should be made in regards to this comment.

Abstract:

- pg 3 line 8-9: needs grammatical correction as it isn't a complete sentence
- pg 3 line 28-31: needs grammatical correction as wrong tense is used for 'focused'
- Use 'SDM' in all cases after you've defined it
- See below comment re: Pg 6 line 18 as edits are necessary in the Abstract if this below comment is accepted.

Background:

- pg 5 line 4-5: should read "palliative care, making …"
- Use 'SDM' in all cases after you've defined it
- Pg 6 line 8-9: needs grammatical correction as it isn't a complete sentence
- Pg 6 line 18: really should read "… improved to POTENTIALLY encourage pediatricians to practice SDM". Why? Because there is no measurement in this study of the actual practice of SDM. So any findings in this study are just ideas to possibly encourage SDM. There is no guarantee at all that the finding in this study will show "if and how guidelines can be improved to [BE GUARANTEED TO] encourage pediatricians to practice SDM". It is a subtle difference, but an important one, I believe. The idea behind this comment should be looked for throughout the manuscript to be sure it is clear as to exactly what the objective of the study is and what the findings suggest.
- Pg 6 line 25: should read "… if a guideline MIGHT be an …"
Results:
- pg 14 line 9-13: needs review as very lengthy and doesn't seem to read correctly at the end.
- Pg 14 line 13: there should be no comma after Although

Discussion:
- pg 18 line 18-19: needs grammatical correction as it isn't a complete sentence

Conclusion:
- pg 20 line 16: needs grammatical correction as it isn't a complete sentence

**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.
Yes

**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

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