Reviewer’s report

**Title:** PATIENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF TELEMEDICINE TERMS REQUIRED FOR INFORMED CONSENT WHEN TRANSLATED INTO KISWAHILI

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 01 Mar 2018

**Reviewer:** Bradbury-Jones Caroline

**Reviewer's report:**

I really enjoyed reviewing this manuscript and it holds some important implications regarding consent that are relevant to practitioners and researchers working across different languages and cultures. The manuscript can be strengthened in a number of ways:

**Abstract**

The abstract needs a short description of what is meant by telemedicine to assist readers who are unfamiliar with the concept

The dates of the previous study and the current study need to be stated

Reference to 'similar study' does not mean a lot. In what ways was it similar? Clearer distinction and description are required (even more of an issue for the main body of the article (as below)

Conclusions need to contain more than the need for further study! Suggestions such as those made on lines 231-234 are more meaningful

The relevance to public health needs to be stated. This does not come over, to the extent that I was wondering whether BMC Public Health is the correct journal. The public health angle needs to be teased out and reflected in the abstract, key words and then the body of the article.

**Main article**

Most of the comments made on the abstract apply to the main part of the article. In addition:

Page numbers of any direct quotes need to be included

Under method there needs to be better description of the previous study (maybe in a text box?). The authors need to find some way of making a distinction between the studies and show how the current exercise relates to the previous one. Is it simply the analysis of the questionnaire that
constitutes this 'current' study? That is how I read it. In any event, the description needs to be clearer because I was a little confused when reading the methods section.

It would be helpful to see the original questionnaire.

The conclusions and discussion need to be developed to draw out the implications of the study and also, to link more explicitly to public health. These are probably the two most crucial elements in strengthening this article and ensuring its fit with the journal.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

**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.

No

**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

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