Reviewer’s report

Title: Health professional views on the assessment and management of foot problems in people with psoriatic arthritis in Australia and New Zealand: a qualitative investigation

Version: 0 Date: 18 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Anita Williams

Reviewer's report:

Thanks you for this interesting paper that has potential to ultimately improve patient care. It is the first step in a line of investigation and the authors do make clear recommendations for future research. The paper is novel and the knowledge new.

Overall the paper is well written as is the abstract though I do recommend inserting '...for patients..' between '..poor access' and '..to specialist Podiatry services' then delete 'provision'.

The scale and importance of the subject area is well articulated in the Background with good identification of the differences between podiatrists roles between UK and Australia/New Zealand (and hence the results of this research also indicate a need to extend roles.

The Method is well described and rigorous in approach. However, was ethical approval sought? if not then a rationale for this needs to be added. If ethical approval was sought and granted then this needs to be stated.

The results are clear and supported with exemplars from the transcription of the focus group and the discussion relates to each of the themes and also the strengths and limitations of the study. You state that future work should involve patients and their opinions. It would be good to justify this with a question about whether patients with PsA dont percieve their foot problems to be related to PsA and hence dont present to podiatry or inform their consultant. There is some evidence of this related to RA and also SLE.

Other than the addition of this and the minor adjustment to the abstract the paper is a good example of how qualitative research should be communicated and how valuable qualitative methods are in both identifying future research and adding to knowledge in the subject area.

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:

Acceptable

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