Reviewer’s report

Title: Decreasing the number of arthroscopies in knee osteoarthritis – the Personalised Knee Improvement Programme (P-KIP). A service evaluation of a de-implementation strategy

Version: 1 Date: 09 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Leti Van Bodegom-Vos

Reviewer's report:

I recommend to accept this manuscript for publication after a couple of minor revisions.

1. Abstract/ results: change 15 in 15.4 and 180 in 184 (to be consistent).

2. Results section/ table 2 and 3: please provide in both tables the n in the legenda (of how many people are these baseline characteristics). In table 3 provide the n seperately for the pre and post P-KIP group.

3. When comparing table 2 and 3 you it seems older patients and female patients more frequently are included in the P-KIP than younger people and men. This point needs to be discussed in het discussion. Is there an explanation for this? Need future initiatve take additional measures to also include younger patients? Its is difficult to say, because there are many important characteristics lacking but I think we have to mention the difference.

4. Discussion, row 403: typo --&gt; health must be health

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.
I recommend additional statistical review

**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:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal