Reviewer’s report

Title: A Qualitative Process Evaluation of a Diabetes Navigation Program Embedded in an Endocrine Specialty Center in Rural Appalachian Ohio

Version: 0 Date: 31 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Enza Gucciardi

Reviewer’s report:

Page 8 of the PDF, line 51 - more details on explaining the various roles of navigators - For instance, do the navigators direct patients or provide patients with diabetes education?

Sound background and model to support the navigation concept that has been used in cancer care with promising results; however, to strengthen this section provide the text about internationally, navigation programs and its impact in the introduction rather than at the end of the discussion.

Perhaps in the discussion section describe the gaps even with the multidisplinary teams. Does the literature describe any gaps that potentially navigators may fill?

Fidelity of the implementation wasn't really assessed. Fidelity means to assess if the intervention was implemented as intended most often compared to a procedural manual. However, this was a qualitative process evaluation of the implementation of an intervention. There was no checklist or process that described how fidelity was measured. Perhaps the term fidelity should not be used?

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.
Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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