Reviewer’s report

**Title:** A virtual clinic for the management of diabetes-type 1: Study protocol for a randomised wait-list controlled clinical trial.

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 27 Apr 2020

**Reviewer:** Shaun Wen Huey Lee

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a protocol review aimed at assessing the efficacy of a virtual clinic for people with type 1 diabetes. The methods appear to be appropriate given that this is only a protocol study but would benefit from the following in the introduction, the authors provided some rationale on the efficacy of telemedicine and the reasons for assessing this in type 1 diabetes. However, there are some nuances in this as follows:

1. The intervention is poorly described. While the aim is to improve diabetes self-efficacy, there is nothing much described on what the intervention comprised of except that it is as stated a virtual clinic. Studies and reviews by several groups have shown that there are many different definitions to telemedicine. Please see this

   Distal technologies and type 1 diabetes management. DOI: 10.1016/s2213-8587(17)30260-7, Danny C Duke, Samantha Barry, David V Wagner, Jane Speight, Pratik Choudhary, Michael A Harris


2. It would be important that the authors describe in detail how and what the intervention includes. Does it only involve providing a platform to ensure continuity of care which is already implemented in many countries, either through a diabetic nurse or case manager? Or does it have additional functions like monitoring, education etc?

3. Can physicians or nurses adjust any medication dosage?

4. The sample size appear to be relatively small to be sufficiently powered to show any real changes. Multiple reviews published to date have shown that most studies are underpowered to show any statistical significance or even clinical significance as 6mmol/mol is a really small change in HBA1c so i am questioning the significance to patients and clinicians.

5. Some minor typo changes and errors in the title.
6. Perhaps the authors should check and cite newer studies as there are newer GBD studies than those cited in 2016.

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.

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 am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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