Reviewer's report

Title: How do we incorporate patient views into the design of health-care services for older people: a discussion paper

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Reviewer: Roger Keller Celeste

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Review of OHEA-D-16-00504R2

Title: How do we incorporate patient views into the design of health-care services for older people: a discussion paper.

Major comments

This is a debate paper that is timely and welcome in the area of health care for elderly. Manuscript is well writing with solid evidence in support. As a debate article is about news ideas and/or new views/interpretation of current start of art, a few comments below may be considered by authors to highlight the importance and utility of this manuscript. Specific comments

Abstract - the aims appear in the discussion subheading. I believe it would be more appropriate at the end of the background. - it would be more informative to nominate what are the four approaches you say the paper will discuss. - one extra line will be welcome in the "Discussion", perhaps from "Conclusion" section of the paper.

Background

The background has set very convincingly the importance to adapt systems of care for the new demographic situation. Apart from saying that the traditional design is top-down, no other information about current system is said. Care for the elderly in Europe is very diverse, as in many non-European countries. Most of the care concern to home care for non-clinical needs (preparing food, cleaning, gardening, small-job at work) that affect elderly health indirectly. Another type of care is nursing care, where clinical needs are the target. So, I believe the following issues are not compulsory, but if authors are willing to consider in part or as a whole, I would add: - Who are dental geriatrics workers in the current system? This tend to be a very female work in many aspects. How has it been in so far in dentistry? - Considering needs of independent and non-independent elderly (institutionalized or those living at home), what has this differences been the been addressed?

Main text - a box of characteristics of each of the four approaches may help to see their differences - methodologically, a Table has a numeric summary of data. Your "Table 1" would be better called "Box 1".

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

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

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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.

None.

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