Reviewer's report

Title: Current advance care planning practice in the Australian community: a survey of Home Care Package case managers and service managers

Version: 3 Date: 6 January 2015

Reviewer: Susan Ashton

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DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS ONLY

This was a very interesting piece of work. I have a copuple of points that may be considered by the authors.

It may be useful to ahve further clarification on the difference between service manager and case manager - are case managers accountable to service managers?

The client profile is described as 'complex care needs and are at risk of sudden or less gradual deterioriation', it may help to give an example e.g. dementia

The results were clear. Would it be useful to include the (n= ) by each %. I appreciate this is in the table.

The lack of response from the Australian Capital Territory - is this significant to the findings - this is not clear.

Funding sources for ACP training (page 5 line 30) are there other sources of funding - is this related to the different regions of Australia or do people self fund?

Page 6 Line 11 - referral to an ACP service - it is not clear what this is or consists of?

Was there any difference in responses depending on the qualification and background e.g. nursing. This would have been interesting to read if qualified nurses or people with a nursing background had more success generally with or without additional training - could this be included in the descriptive statistics?

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'