Reviewer's report

Title: 'From activating towards caring'. Shifts in care approaches at the end of life of people with intellectual disabilities; a qualitative study of the perspectives of relatives, care-staff and physicians.

Version: 2
Date: 1 June 2015

Reviewer: Ruth Diver

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
None.

The research question in well defined, and the methods used are appropriate to answer it. Themes in the data are clearly identified, and examples in the form of quotations from study participants are well chosen and serve to illustrate the themes. There is a good balance between stating thematic findings and illustrating them.

The authors recognise the limitation of the method that they have chosen.

Minor essential revisions
Throughout the paper the authors have used the term 'moral values' to describe the foundational values and attitudes which underlie participants approaches to care. I think the term 'moral value' is generally used to refer to a value which defines what a person considers to be universally right or wrong, rather than to the things which they value as important or helpful in a particular situation. I think the term is therefore potentially emotive and is not the best description of what they are discussing. I would suggest 'moral value' is replaced with simply 'value' or 'attitude.'

The term is used in lines 37, 59, 73, 97, 140, 165, 199, 217, 232, 249, 267, 327, 328, 330, 370.

Line 188 - 'shower moments' doesn't really make sense as a term. 'Time taken showering' would read better.

Discretionary revisions
There is little attention paid to whether the findings here in relation to care givers for people with ID at the end of life are similar to attitudes found in care givers for people without ID at the end of life. This would be an interesting avenue for further research, and it would be helpful to acknowledge it even if you can't do any comparison in this paper.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
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