Reviewer’s report

Title: Path modeling of knowledge, attitude and practice toward palliative care consultation service among Taiwanese nursing staff: A cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 28 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Anthony Herbert

Reviewer’s report:

The paper is very good and the authors have responded well to the reviewer's comments.

There is still some work required on the English Grammar.

The following are suggestions:

Page 3

Lines 10-11

The Taiwanese government has promoted palliative care consultation services (PCCS) to support terminally ill patients in acute ward settings to receive palliative care since 2005. Such an intervention can enhance the quality of life and dignity of …

Line 19

However, research focusing on the relationship between the knowledge, attitude and practice of a PCCS using path modelling

Line 29

Data collected included demographics, knowledge, attitude and practice as measured y the PCCS Inventory (KAP-PCCSI). Two hundred and eighty-four nursing staff from a medical center in northern Taiwa.in participated in the study in 2013.

Line 57

and experience of friends or relatives dying.

Page 4

Line 12

Encouragement of staff to undertake further …
Cancer is the leading cause of death in Taiwan, accounting for 28% of all deaths, in 2014. The Taiwanese government has advocated palliative care and enacted the Hospice Palliative Act since 2000. The palliative care consultation service (PCCS) is another model of palliative care that has provided holistic end-of-life care for terminally ill patients in acute ward settings since 2005. They collaborated with primary health professionals. The percentage of patients receiving some form of palliative care support during the terminal phase of illness was less than 45%... Registered nurses was detrimental to contact with PCCS, Terminally ill patients. Previous studies have used multiple regression models to examine association between variables.
A sample size of 255 was required to undertake regression analysis (using G* power 3.1).

Regression coefficient at 0.2.

Convenience sampling was used to recruit nurses who fulfilled the inclusion criteria such as ...
* Marital status - being married
* Education - having a higher degree
* Participation in palliative care training courses
* Longer time working in an oncology or medical ward
* Experience in caring for patients and their families at end-of-life.

Page 15
Line 24
Positive direct effects on liaison with PCCS.

Page 17
Line 3

Therefore, it is important that the practice of contacting PCCS team members to learn and develop clinical ability is encouraged. This would assist in providing supportive and holistic care for both patients and their families.

Line 15

Nursing staff working in a haematology and oncology ward know how to treat patients with oncology diagnoses, have basic concepts of palliative care and receive the best training programs in order to become a haematology and oncology nurse. However, it does not necessarily mean these programs will assist them to provide the best palliative care for patients, particularly for those diagnosed with a non-cancer illness.

Line 25

Finally, extra training in palliative care and access to PPCS is integral to nurses providing the best palliative care for patients.

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

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

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

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.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons
CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal