Reviewer’s report

Title: Integrated respiratory and palliative care leads to high levels of satisfaction: a survey of patients and carers

Version: 0 Date: 12 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Natasha Lovell

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for inviting me to review this paper which aimed to assess patients and carers experience of the Advanced Lung Disease Service. I enjoyed reading this paper and think it has some important messages. I have a few comments which I hope will be helpful.

Methods

The survey could be completed as a paper questionnaire or as a face-to-face interview. It would be helpful to clarify how the interviews were conducted -did the researcher read the questions out verbatim and were any additional questions asked/ qualitative data collected?

It would also be helpful to know what proportion of questionnaires were completed by post, at a hospital appointment and through an interview with a researcher.

Results

The aim of this study was to assess patients and carers experience of the Advanced Lung Disease Service, in particular identify valued aspects and determine priorities for service development. In the results section valued aspects are described in detail however I can't see very much which relate to how the service could be developed or improved. This is important for the ALDS service, and potentially relevant to other clinicians who may be interested in setting up a similar service.

In table 3 a high proportion of patients did not feel that the service had tried to help with symptoms such as mood, poor appetite and sleep. These symptoms are common in patients experiencing breathlessness and I think it would be helpful to reflect on this. Perhaps this is an area of the service which could be developed.

Similarly nearly a third of carers stated a preference for written resources. I am not clear if any resources are currently provided within the service?
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

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Not relevant to this manuscript

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