Reviewer’s report

Title: Enabling activity in palliative care: focus groups among occupational therapists

Version: 0 Date: 19 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Kieran Broome

Reviewer's report:

Overall the study provides a succinct and useful contribution to the literature by highlighting the enabling and participation precepts for occupational therapists working within palliative care. The methodology was appropriate to the research question as a phenomenological study.

There were a number of issues with written expression, and feedback on grammar, sentence structure and written expression are highlighted in the attached annotated manuscript.

Some general comments include;

* Replace the word "patient" with "client" (or other similar term) as patient denotes a medical model and is not consistent with international OT terminology.

* At times the use of "they" and "this" is confusing as it is hard to know if you are referring to the OT or clients. Please just label what "they" or "this" is unless very clear.

* Don't abbreviate OT, PC or FGD as it is confusing, inconsistent and saves few words. You could perhaps simplify FGD as just "focus groups".

* The context (i.e., I'm assuming Orebro, Sweden) and any translation that may have taken place needs to be acknowledged and discussed.

* The discussion would be strengthened by exploring whether your findings are captured in existing position statements or fact sheets about OT in palliative or end-of-life care from other jurisdictions (e.g., AOTA, CAOT, OT Australia, CPTOPR) as many associations have existing documents which may or may not already capture what you have found. If they do, then your research provides evidence to support these statements, and if they don't you may need to recommend what things may need to be added to these statement / guidelines (whilst acknowledge cultural and professional differences between countries).

* While I acknowledge that you have given some rationale for the study, this was not always clear. For example, your method simply captures what is already happening and doesn't
necessarily mean that this is the best evidence-based approach. You may need to acknowledge that the approach simply captures the expert opinion of those already working in the area. It was also not entirely clear who would use this research and how? Is it to support a position statement? Is it to support the development of a framework for OTs working in palliative care? Is it to articulate the OT role to other members of the multidisciplinary team?

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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