Reviewer's report

Title: Assigned nurses and a professional relationship: a qualitative study of COPD patients' perspective on a new palliative outpatient structure named CAPTAIN.

Version: 0 Date: 04 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Joannes Menten

Reviewer's report:

Comments:

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This is a well written paper about an innovative way to follow up COPD patients by dedicated specialist nurses with some important optimisations for the patients:

- patients described how they during hospital admission where visited by their c-nurse or met their c-physician in the ward. These visits or meetings were significant to the patients.

  - importance of personal relationship and continuity in care

- a patient expressed that the health professionals' resources were utilized better and given to those who needed the most.

- professional relationship with their c-nurse they valued most and that the relationship with their c-nurse positively influenced their ability to self-manage their life.

- this new way of follow-up was experienced as a natural part of COPD treatment and care.
Questions:

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- Telemedicine by a dedicated nurse: risk of misinterpretation the info from the patient? Did it happen? can you comment on that

- who will pay for the nurses, a research grant or implemented by the health insurance system?

- which basic and maintenance education need these nurses?

- How many COPD patient per year can be followed by 1 full time equivalent nurse?

- Do these nurses make reports in the electronic patient files and were these reports send to the general practitioner?

- Is there still a role for the GP?

- what about questsions from patients during weekends and out of hours problems?

- How many nurse contacts per year and what is the duration of the contacts (phone/physically)? What is the percentage of nurse contacts that will end in physician contacts to solve medical problems?

- What this a pilot study paid by a research grant? Is it feasible to continue the project with(out) structural reimbursement? Will you continue the project?
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:

Acceptable

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