Reviewer’s report

Title: Designing and developing a co-produced theoretical and evidence-based online support for family caregivers of people with dementia at the end of life

Version: 0 Date: 19 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Meera Agar

Reviewer's report:

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This paper addresses an important aspect of supporting caregivers of people with dementia at the end of life.

The abstract does not make it clear that the paper addresses the synthesis only, and as such should focus its methods section more on the method of the specific aspect of the program.

The introduction can be condensed; and the results of phase 1 and 2 should be weaved into some succinct introductory paragraphs rather than be stand along sections. There are also some aspects of these two sections which would be better placed in methods. The introduction also is UK centric in terms of caregiver experience and impact - was this project designed to purely addressed caregivers in UK or internationally? and if so an international context is important. Also I think it would be helpful to provide context specific to people with advanced dementia who remain in the community setting at end of life (rather than in residential aged care) and how you would see this meeting the needs of people whose loved one was in residential aged care (or was that not the purpose) or at a minimum define for purposes of the prototype how you have defined dementia end of life.

The methods and participants are derived from a UK perspective which reflects in the resulting prototype. The discussion either needs to be framed from this perspective, or some commentary of applicability internationally or whether this type of process is need in each international setting is needed for the paper to be of more relevance to an international audience

This is an important contribution to the literature but some refinement will position it more clearly within end of life care, and also the international context.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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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