Reviewer’s report

Title: What motivates new, established and long-term users of herbal medicine: Is there more than push and pull?

Version: 1 Date: 14 May 2019

Reviewer: Erica McIntyre

Reviewer’s report:

Peer review comments

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General comment:

Congratulations to the authors for a well written manuscript and making an important contribution to this area of research. This is a novel approach that has elucidated some interesting findings. The authors have responded appropriately to the previous reviewer's feedback.

Below is some addition feedback to further strengthen the manuscript.

Introduction:

The introduction is well written and provides solid justification for the research. I only have one criticism needing to be addressed.

Line 37, page 4. The authors state: "So far, there are no specific insights concerning the decision making process, which includes the motivation of people for choosing HM initially…". This is not the case. McIntyre et al have produced a body of work in this area and used a theoretical model of decision-making to understand herbal medicine use for anxiety. Although this research is focused on a specific population group it is a key piece of research related to HM use decision making that should be referred to. See the following for more information:


Methods:

The methods are appropriate and clearly described. However, there are a couple of clarifications needed.

Could the authors please state which measurement scales were used within the questionnaire and what variables they were used to measure.

The exploratory factor analysis is appropriate; however, there is no discussion of the theoretical approach used to determine the factor structure; i.e., what was the expected factor structure based on theory/empirical evidence? Were eigenvalues set at 1 for the analysis or was there an a priori criterion used to determine the number of factors? This information needs to be added.

Results:

Overall, the results are well presented. One minor thing to note: it is preferable to report the exact p values rather than "n.s" so the reader has all the information they need to interpret the data.

**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.

I am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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