Reviewer’s report

Title: The Emergence of Ethical Issues in the Provision of Online Sexual Health Outreach for Gay, Bisexual, Two-Spirit and Other Men who have Sex with Men: Perspectives of Online Outreach Workers

Version: 0 Date: 16 Sep 2016

Reviewer: Simona Giordano

Reviewer's report:

This is a valuable addition to the ethics literature on e-therapies and online healthcare. It is interesting and it discusses a topic that is likely to become more central in bioethics debates. I would recommend publication but also some minor corrections.

1. In the title, is the word 'implications' the right one? It seems to me that the paper is not about ethical implications but ethical issues arising in connection with online healthcare.

2. The word synchronous is rather obscure; I would advise revising the title to make it clearer to a wide audience

3. Is the n.22 participants representative? It may be important to specify that the research simply illustrates some ethical issues that may arise in connection with this type of online support, rather than providing data.

4. At p. 4 some ethical issues are listed, and then again at p.8, but they do not correspond. Is it possible to make the two lists consistent? For ex at p.4 the boundaries issue, which is central to this paper, is not mentioned. Could it be mentioned there too?

p.10 Does your argument implies that this type of e-services should be limited to geographically large areas, in which anonymity is more easily protected?

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.

No
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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