Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness of a decision aid for promoting colorectal cancer screening in Spain: a randomized trial

Version: 1 Date: 13 Jun 2018

Reviewer: Adam Dunn

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. The study is a trial of the effectiveness of a decision aid for colorectal cancer screening and is relevant to the scope of the journal. The authors have revised the manuscript relative to the comments and suggestions I made. However, it is difficult to see whether all of the responses to other reviewers have been adequately addressed. It would have been useful to include the specific text that was changed and what it was changed to in the response to reviewers (even though that would make the response very long, I think it is worth it).

I still believe it is a mistake to describe something as "near significant" in a published article because it is likely to be heavily criticised by readers. A hypothetical example: if the trial was underpowered to detect effects for an outcome (primary or secondary), it should be stated directly (it may still be worth publishing because meta-analyses based on individual participant data will still yield new knowledge). If the study was powered to detect the effect for the outcome but did not find a significant effect, that is a different story. Both should be explained carefully and in an objective manner.

I checked the link: "http://www.pydesalud.com/toma-de-decisiones-encancer-colorrectal/" and also receive "no encontrado".

A reviewer mentions a protocol, but I did not see any information about a prospective registration of the trial listed in the manuscript text. This would have alleviated many of the concerns of the reviewers (and potential readers), and it is unfortunate that this is not made available in advance. Perhaps a useful thing to consider for future studies. Many journals would require this.

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests
I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal