Reviewer’s report

Title: Integrating patient perspectives in medical decision-making: A qualitative interview study examining potentials within the rare disease information exchange process in practice

Version: 1 Date: 26 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer’s report:

"PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

No - there are minor issues

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

N/A - there are no statistics in this study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

Yes - the author’s interpretation is reasonable

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?
Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: Many of the issues raised have been dealt with appropriately. A few have been dealt with in a rather perfunctory manner and for some of these, if appropriate clarification is not going to be provided, then these issues should be acknowledged in the limitations.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

Responses that haven't dealt with the original questions/comments well include some of the methods clarification ones - for example, was the piloting sufficient, how was the interview guide developed, what did ""the hierarchy level was considered"" actually mean, etc.? The authors should try and address requests for clarifications such as these more thoroughly, and if not possible, then acknowledge that these issues are potential sources of bias and limitations of the study.

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.

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published
Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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