Reviewer's report

Title: The perseverance time of informal carers for people with dementia: results of a two-year longitudinal follow-up study

Version: 5  Date: 12 June 2015

Reviewer: Daksha Trivedi

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions:

The authors explain that year 2 data could not be included in table 2 given the size of the table. Whilst I agree with this, the authors still need to provide a text indicating the year 2 N's for home, nursing home and deceased, AND to comment on whether or not the year 2 data were any different from year 1 and indicating 'not shown in table'.

Point number 4; second reviewer's report: regarding information about numbers invited, and non-responders. The authors have now reflected this in the text but this needs to be also reflected in their flow chart; Numbers invited, numbers eligible and included, number dropped out, etc

Under major compulsory revisions: regarding sample size calculation. The authors say no sample size was calculated, but they have acknowledged the small number of sample as a limitation. They still need to clarify in limitations, why sample size was not calculated to take into account the loss to follow-up, especially in a longitudinal study, and given that they indicate this as a limitation. I am now considering this as a minor but ESSENTIAL revision, before the manuscript is published, as I think the authors can be trusted to address this in their text.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests