Reviewer's report

Title: "Do you see what I mean?" Staff collaboration in eating disorder units during mealtimes

Version: 1 Date: 24 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Esther Johnstone

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to peer review this manuscript. This is a level III, descriptive, exploratory, non-experimental qualitative research study conducted in Norway. The purpose of the article is to explore staff's teamwork during mealtimes on inpatient ED units. The authors investigated the collaborative strategies employed to support core therapeutic goals of meal completion and normalized eating behavior, while maintaining a supportive friendly atmosphere during mealtimes.

Study design - data collection through in-depth interviews with 20 staff members. Results - three themes emerged from the data collection. The first theme relates to strategic seating arrangements mediates division of labor. The second theme relates to the use of verbal and non verbal communication as collaborative tools. The third theme relates to the importance of experience as a collaborative resource. Conclusions - collaborative practice, cultural historical activity theory, eating disorders, interview, and staff members.

The purpose is to explore staff's teamwork during mealtimes on an inpatient ED units. The authors investigated collaborative strategies to support core therapeutic goals of meal completion and normal eating behavior, while maintaining a supportive environment during mealtimes. The research questions were clear. The authors described what is known and not known about eating disorders. The study was approved by the Data Protection Committee at Oslo University Hospital in Norway.

Small sample size of 20, however that is normal for qualitative research studies. No power analysis noted. All study participants were accounted for. Data collection was clearly described. Not sure of the response rate. The authors include limitations and strengths of the study.

Suggest to strengthen the conclusion paragraph. Total of 45 references. Out of the 45 references 32 references were older than 5 years. Means only 13 of the references were in the 5 year time
frame. Suggest to remove references that were not included in the writing of the manuscript. Is there a need to include 45 references? Too many old references.

Reference
AORN research evidence appraisal tool. 2015.

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.
Not relevant to this manuscript

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
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