Reviewer’s report

Title: Randomized community trial on nosocomial infection control educational module for nurses in public hospitals in Yemen: a study protocol

Version: 1 Date: 11 Apr 2018

Reviewer: Maria Clara Padoveze

Reviewer's report:

General comments: This is a research protocol that I think will be very useful to readers of BMC Nursing. I recommend to explicit that the study is ongoing at the analysis stage in both the abstract and the body of the manuscript.

Subject of the study: the subject is highly relevant to infection prevention and nursing worldwide.

Abstract: I would recommend to excluded the "inexpensive" as a qualifier for the education module, because although the cost can be low, there was for sure cost in developing and applying the educational module. Otherwise it would be necessary to provide data on the costs.

Background: this section presents properly the problem however there is an error in the definition of time for post-discharge and post-operation days to define nosocomial infections (NI). I would suggest to update this topic.

Methods: the methods are overall well described. Few information was provided about the content of questionnaire and how it was developed. It is difficult to evaluate the accuracy of the method to evaluate the knowledge and practice because the questionnaire was not provided. Since this is a study protocol, I consider essential to provide the questionnaire because all the results can be biased if the questionnaire has relevant flaws. The authors should clarify how the theoretical background is embedded in the questionnaire. The intervention is based in a document from WHO which is not updated since 2002, I would suggest only mention the other document from GCC which is more recent.
Discussion: this section has information already provided in the background section. Because this paper is aiming at to detail the study protocol, I would recommend that the discussion section should explore more the methods against the literature with similar methods in other fields or similar study with other methods.

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

**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