Reviewer’s report

Title: HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS’ PAIN EXPERIENCES BEFORE AND AFTER THE INTRODUCTION OF A NURSE-BASED PAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: A SEPARATE SAMPLE PRE AND POST STUDY

Version: 1 Date: 04 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Lucyna Tomaszek

Reviewer's report:

Reviewer 1
The paper is improved, but continues to need improvement, clarification on several points, and more detail.

Abstract:
1) Remove statement in Background section: „, However, there is a lack of research investigating patients’ pain intensity and interference across various hospital inpatient units before and after the introduction of a nurse-based pain management programme”.
2) Remove statement in Methods section „,Data were analyzed using an ANOVA, and the results were considered significant at p < 0.05”.
3) Results section - based on table 4 you should write „, The proportion of patients who reported average moderate and severe pain in the last 24 hours was 68.8 % in Survey 1, 72.8 % in Survey 2, then dropped to 48.5 % in Survey 3”. I do not understand why is 93 % in Survey 1, 94.5 % in Survey 2, and 87.3 % in Survey 3. Remove „,pain intensity” in statement „,The mean ....pain interference with physical and emotional …” because the pain has previously been described (sentence above).

Introduction
1) Please make the following changes:
- remove article number 7 and add:
- Add article: page 4, line 59
The Ethiopian Public Health Association. Baseline evaluation of pain management practices and teaching in health facilities and health training schools in Ethiopia. 2011
- Remove article number 11 and add
Mędrzycka-Dąbrowska WA, Dąbrowski S, Basiński A, Pilch D. Perception of barriers to postoperative

Page 6, line 103: Check citation number 2 - I think it should be citation number 10.

Page 8, line 146-149 - remove citation number 28 and statement „The American…..emotional function”

Page 8, line 151-152 - remove statement „The reliability report…..from 0.68-0.80"

Page 9, line 178-180 - it is written that acute pain lasts less than 6 months and chronic pain lasts longer than 6 months. According to my knowledge acute pain lasts less than 3 months and chronic pain lasts longer than 3 months [citation number 5 - definition of chronic pain „Ongoing or recurrent pain lasting beyond the usual course of acute illness or injury or, generally, more than 3 to 6 months and adversely affecting the individual's well-being". Treede RD, Rief W, Barke A, et al. A classification of chronic pain for ICD-11. Pain. 2015;156(6):1003-1007: Chronic pain was defined as persistent or recurrent pain lasting longer than 3 months. Therefore, you should update table 1.

References
There is a particular need to improve the References list (incorrect tab space). Capitalize the first letters of all main words in the title of a journal, and all first letters of a place name and publisher.

Kind regards,

Reviewer 1

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.

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.
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

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