Reviewer’s report

Title: Increasing cultural awareness: Qualitative study of nurses' perceptions about a cultural competence training

Version: 0 Date: 28 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Saras Henderson

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Authors

This is an important paper on promoting cultural awareness in nurses caring for patients in general ward areas. The use of qualitative research is appropriate as the aim is to ascertain nurses' views about the educational intervention in increasing awareness about their own culture. However, the following suggestions are provided to strengthen your paper:

1. There needs to be a clear delineation of whether you are evaluating the education intervention that is how it was delivered, by whom etc or researching to find out if awareness of own culture does improve cultural competency in nurses when caring for patients.

2. It is a pity that only nurses were involved in the study when involving allied health and medical staff would have been useful. Further not all of the 10 nurses attended all the education sessions; this could be discussed as a limitation of the study.

3. A clearer definition of cultural competency needs to be included as being aware of one's own culture does not necessarily equate with cultural competence.

4. There is a sense that a pilot study with 25 healthcare professionals was conducted to augment the content for the education sessions. This needs to be made clearer -page 6.

5. The meaning of conviction is linked with spiritualism and the use of a conversational model is mentioned to assess patients spiritual needs. Need to clarify for the Reader how spiritualism is linked to cultural competence with supporting literature. Further, the role of spiritualism with respect to cultural competence needs to be discussed.

6. The authors indicate that focus group interviews were conducted in the abstract; however in the body of the text, there were 4 persons, 3 persons, 2persons ,1 person interviews being conducted. Focus group interviews usually have 5-10 people in each group with a moderator and note taker. Suggest the authors call this small group interviews rather than focus group interviews.

7. Please clarify the sorts of field notes taken and how this have been used in the analysis.
8. Suggest the authors relook at the thrust of the paper as promoting nurses' awareness of own culture that facilitates them thinking about another culture rather than the education intervention increasing cultural competence. There is no or little data in the paper to demonstrate cultural competence in the provision of care for patients beyond awareness.

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.

Unable to assess

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:

Acceptable

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