Reviewer’s report

Title: Using qualitative mixed methods to study small health care organizations while ensuring trustworthiness and authenticity

Version: 3 Date: 3 August 2014

Reviewer: Sue Pullon

Reviewer’s report:

See also attachment for comments.

Major compulsory revisions
1. The reasons for development of the tool for use beyond the original AGPNS study must be more clearly explained and justified.
2. The extension to observation of primary care processes (using the Q-Rara tool) as a whole (reasons, feasibility) needs explanation and clarification.
3. All of practice engagement needs to be more explicitly considered, and/or explained in the limitations section of the discussion.
4. There is a vast difference between the ‘long engagement’ of traditional ethnographic methods and a single one day data collection period. Justification or otherwise for a middle ground approach needs further consideration.

Minor Essential Revisions
5. Insert reference(s) to AGPNS study at first mention, even though cited in the methods section. Background - P2, Line 6
6. P14, line 21 – close citation bracket

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests