Reviewer’s report

Title: Hospital board oversight of quality and safety: a stakeholder analysis exploring the role of trust and intelligence

Version: 4 Date: 18 December 2014

Reviewer: Jo J Maybin

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have responded satisfactorily to all of the previous major compulsory revisions, and more generally, the article is much improved.

However, there are a number of points in the text where the phrasing needs to be revisited to ensure clarity of meaning (Minor Essential Revisions).

These are:
Line 238 - I think 'perspectives' should be replaced with 'phenomena’
Line 331-2 - place 'that would draw attention to' with 'that relate to'
Lines 586-7 - rephrase to clarify meaning (doesn't quite make sense)
Lines 602-6 - review and revise to clarify meaning
Line 615 - replace 'can be found in' with, for example, 'promoted by' or 'nurtured by'
Lines 625-7 - Repetitive - reduce/rephrase
Lines 626-631 - Need to spell out more clearly how the narratives show that staff can be trusters and boards trustees
Line 637 - Check phrasing
Lines 669 and 672 - Repetitive - reduce/rephrase
Line 676 - supplement as follows: 'refining the APPLICATION OF the theoretical perspectives of trust and intelligence IN THE CONTEXT OF HOSPITAL BOARD GOVERNANCE.'
Line 679-80 - needs expanding to form a full sentence

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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