Reviewer's report

Title: Empowering patients through eHealth: gathering relevant evidence from local experiences

Version: 2
Date: 16 April 2015

Reviewer: Mona Choi

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for submitting this interesting article to create the evidence by cumulating knowledge from multi-site based projects. This has values for researchers and funding agencies on disseminating the findings of studies and those viewpoints are well made. This article is generally well-written and there are several revision points to make this manuscript clearer.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. You should briefly describe a definition and some aspects/components of eHealth in the main text not only on Table 1.

2. There are some grammatical errors, for example: 1) line 89, those? Not that?; 2) line 105 shortcomings; 3) line 131 although not despite?; 4) “pilot” is not a person—it cannot discuss, implement, and so on; 5) the word “data” is plural; and 6) line 444 multi-centric. I cannot point out all errors so please read the manuscript thoroughly and correct many of those.

3. Please use American/British English consistently (e.g., -ize vs –ise, learnt vs. learned, and so on).

4. The decision of using ‘activation’ from ‘empowerment’ was not explained clearly. I understand your effort of process to aggregate the outcomes from multi-center projects, you should at least provide the definition of patient activation and items of that measure to provide the rationale. Furthermore, use of those two terms on Results and Discussion exchangeable make readers confused.

5. Line 197: what was the qualification of reviewers?

6. The order of “Informing, educating, and communicating” on line 312, the description of line 314-322, and Table 2 are all different. Please use the same order consistently. Additionally, please use the same order on line 280 and Figure 1.

7. The numbers on Figure 1 does not add up. Please check and correct them.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. There are some redundancy and verbose style throughout the manuscript. Please make sentences succinct.

2. Please describe limitations you encountered during the process of data aggregation.
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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