Reviewer's report

Title: Development and evaluation of a nurse-led, tailored stroke self-management intervention

Version: 4
Date: 9 March 2015

Reviewer: Susan Latter

Reviewer's report:

This is a valuable report of the development and evaluation of a new stroke self-management intervention for stroke survivors, delivered by nurses in a UK context. A detailed and justified account is provided of each stage of the process, and it is clear that the MRC complex interventions framework was used to develop an evidence-based, theory-informed intervention. All major details of the research method and analysis are reported clearly and findings are clear and well justified. The authors are balanced in their report of what worked and did not work so well in the application of this new intervention in practice and this is reported from both nurses and stroke survivor perspectives. The reader is left with a clear account of the intervention components and how these might be used or refined in the future. It will also be interesting to see how the research team take this important work forward in the next stage of their research.

Minor essential revisions
It would be helpful to define stroke nursing teams and stroke nurses—we need to know this to understand the context and interpret findings e.g. why the intervention did not fit readily into routine clinical practice.

How were the stroke participants selected for the evaluation phase? By the nurses themselves?

There is reference to the systematic review being published separately, but no actual reference to the published paper to cross reference to—please add details.

What is the range of PAM scores possible—I could not see this stated in the text.

P17 line 23—inconsistent here about whether or not the intervention fitted into routine practice—lines 1-5 on this page indicate it did not integrate. Please clarify and be consistent on this important point.

Discretionary revisions

Did nurses have any views on using the MI component of the intervention?

Was the follow up support utilized by the nurses?

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.

Declaration of competing interests: I declare that I have no competing interests.