Reviewer's report

Title: Perceived barriers to pharmacist engagement in adverse drug event prevention activities

Version: 2 Date: 23 February 2015

Reviewer: Clare Crowley

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting piece of work that a few changes would improve the clarity and understanding of greatly.

Minor Essential Revisions

Abstract - Background

Clinical interventions are one of a range of ways that pharmacists prevent medication errors. As it is currently worded it reads as though this is the only method. Suggest adding to the start of the second sentence 'One such method', the process by which hospital pharmacists undertake clinical ....

It would appear as though some of the activities undertaken as a clinical intervention are about supporting appropriate and high quality medicines use rather than just preventing ADEs. If this in the case then suggest rephrasing the sentence to The perceived barriers to pharmacists succeeding in getting their recommendations accepted could inform future medicines safety strategy development.

Abstract - Method

Suggest breaking into 2 sentences. In the first include that routine clinical interventions were collected at a tertiary hospital over 23 months. In the second sentence clarify you sampled those to interview.

line 2 - ?missing word, should it read 'Though the majority' rather than Though majority

line 12 - nurses also prevent many errors reaching the patient, especially when pharmacists are not present on the ward. This should be included, but the value of the pharmacist intervention especially on the prescribing stage and those likely to cause patient harm could be expanded.

line 21 - not sure what is intended by the word trial ?describe

Study design -

Some of the information needed in this section is included elsewhere in the report and would be clearer if moved to this section.

line 32 - what was evaluated any by whom? I believe you collected data on the
type of intervention, outcome and pharmacists experience and grading.
line 33 - include what you interview covered i.e. line 72-73 here so that the reader knows. Where your interviews semistructured?

line 49 refers to 17 pharmacists eligible to participate but line 66 mentions 19 - this needs reviewing.

Line 158 -9 ?missing word in sentence Participants believe....

Limitations of study method/design need to be described
Line 287 ? missing work, The barriers to undetaking clinical...

Line 290-1, need to reconcile this with the fact that over 90% of recommendations were accepted. Maybe this is about increasing the proportion accepted or having recomendations more readily accepted - not sure what you interview transcripts would support.

References - Be consistent in style throughout e.g. Capitalising journal title. Check spelling e.g. busyness, counseling.
Ref 31 - please confirm author.

Figure 3 - Considering the patient - not sure what whether controlled refers to.

Discretionary Revisions
Abstract - use described or documented instread of chronicled?

Abstract results - suggest reorder first sentence to ' Results showed that pharmacists follwed a sequential order when undertaking a clinical intervention'.

line 17 - you could expand further on what the intervention documentation could be used for e.g. targetted training, identifying need for guidelines etc.

line 61, suggest at in a 23 month period to end of sentence about intervention quantity.

line 63-65 - This is a fabulous result- well done I think you should make more of it.

Line 97 - not sure what is meant by medical problems

line 165-6 suggest change to .... Pharm D qualification would prepare pharmacy graduates to better perform....

line 228 suggest include over 23 month period.

Table 1 - would be really interesting to see the min, max and mean/median number of intervention reports per pharmacist also.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely
related research interests

**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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'