Reviewer's report

Title: Personal and Standardized Coordination in Implementation of Integrated Care

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Reviewer: Thomas T.H. Wan

Reviewer's report:

This is a qualitative study on coordination between primary care and mental health units within specific VAMCs in the United States. It is well written and readable.

Several areas could be clarified:

1. Integrated care: How is integration defined? What is the operational definition of integrated care in the context of VAMCs? Do you mean structural/financial integration, clinical integration, or/and informatics integration?

2. Service line management: Is this part of the service line management initiative in VAMCs?

3. Perceived vs. actual coordination: How is coordination assessed or measured?
   Are joint projects between the units considered as coordination or collaboration?

4. Factors influencing the perception: The pro- and con aspects of the two types of organizational coordination may be influenced by different factors. What are these factors?

5. The relationship between personal and standardized coordination procedures or guidelines: What is the duration of the observation for the intervention?

6. Replication: Is the assumption replicable in other VAMCs?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

Not applicable since I have not been engaged in the VAMC study or consultation.