Reviewer’s report

Title: Design and methods of the ‘Monitoring Outcomes of Psychiatric Pharmacotherapy’ (MOPHAR) monitoring program – a study protocol

Version: 0 Date: 09 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Samantha Hollingworth

Reviewer's report:

General. The MOPHAR program is commendable and clearly needed for the many people living with mental disorders with sub-optimal care. This is essentially a protocol paper but that it is not stated in either the title or abstract

Title
Define your acronym for MOPHAR

Introduction
P5 line 14 'drug use' Please be clear if this is for prescribed medicines or (illicit) drugs. Consider using the term medicines for prescription products?

P5 line 33 could explain on the "introduction of new guidelines, consensus statements, education materials or (national) quality improvement programs". It seems they have not worked well. Why not?

Methods
P6 line 33 It would help your readers to know the usual pathway of someone with mental illness. How do they end up at the outpatient clinic (by referral from whom)? Do they have a regular primary care doctor who would presumably have some information on existing comorbidities (also p13)? How often do they attend the outpatient clinic? Do they also have regular care from their primary care doctor? If they are referred to these clinics then surely there might have been a diagnosis and associated information collected at an earlier stage. Are there data already elsewhere that you can collate? What is your definition of a 'severe' mental illness?

P7 line 2 Given the focus on medicines, you might want to comment about the contribution that could be made by having a pharmacist on the team! No mention of one at all.

P7 line 7 What is a nursing specialist - are they different to the psychiatric nurse?

Give an indication of time involved in the process e.g. somatic screening at first appointment. What is the average time for a patient to complete the online questionnaire?

P8 line 31 Do all patients have access and skills in using the internet and online forms? What happens if they do not? Do you have a paper version they can complete? I imagine there might be quite a lot of
missing data. Do you later try and get some of this missing information in the face to face appointment?

P10 line 1 Please specify more clearly what the two questionnaires are: patients and family members? Two different surveys for the patients? Is this the same questionnaire the patient was asked to complete online?

P10 Line 7 Why is the medication reconciliation not performed by a pharmacist? Is the nurse sufficiently trained in all aspects to fully perform this role? This seems a major issue.

P10 line 45 How often do patients attend the clinic? Only once a year?

This program seems rather time intensive for staff and patients. How does this fit into the usual workflow of staff? Are there resource implication (i.e. you need more staff or more time on these tasks)? Are you planning to measure costs of the program?

Discussion
Please comment on where that there are other published papers on similar monitoring programs. How is yours different? The same? You make little comment on the existing guidelines, etc. in The Netherlands.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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