Reviewer’s report

Title: The implementation of the Coaching on Lifestyle (CooL) intervention: Lessons learnt

Version: 0 Date: 04 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Annie S Anderson

Reviewer's report:

Interesting paper but long could usefully be shortened by a third.

Although main results on outcomes presented elsewhere a summary (esp of weight loss) would be useful.

What is the background of coaches

What would they typically be doing - education, motivation, support?

practical examples needed was a modest energy diet prescribed, were the recommendations personalised, food choices, portion sizes?

Were pedometers used, what behavioural change techniques were used? This info could be presented in a figure format (although it probably is detailed in the protocol)

A few more details on the clients could be provided - BMI range, were they all obese, what were the inclusion criteria (including BMI)? Gender, ethnicity, family size etc

Not all readers will understand the z score figure.

It would be useful to have a figure showing what is meant by networks and also stakeholders.

In general many terms are used with no illustration/examples and it makes the paper a bit dull to read and difficult to appreciate who is involved and doing what.

I'm unclear where the funding came from for the coaches - was it from health insurance? Were the groups set up a franchise/business model if yes why not a social enterprise? All these details probably need to be explained for the purposes of cross cultural understanding

Re analysis I do not agree that using manual rather than programme analysis is a limitation but it does mean that we should have a few more details about how the data was analysed - themes, sub classification etc.

Cannot see references - might they be in a separate document?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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

No

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

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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