Reviewer’s report

Title: Cost-effectiveness of the SLIMMER diabetes prevention intervention in Dutch primary health care: economic evaluation from a randomised controlled trial

Version: 0 Date: 08 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer’s report:

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS: To view the full report from the academic peer reviewer, please see the attached file.

REVIEWER COMMENTS FROM REPORT:

This manuscript evaluates the cost-effectiveness of the SLIMMER intervention. Overall, this is a well written and conducted study. Below are specific points that I think would improve the manuscript.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

1. The abstract should state the country in which the study was conducted.

2. I recognize that the full details of the trial are published elsewhere but the current manuscript still should provide sufficient detail to understand the design of the study. The authors note that this is a pragmatic trial; however, from the description of the trial this is not apparent. More detail as to what makes the trial pragmatic would be helpful and a greater description of how training was conducted would be helpful.

3. It would be beneficial to have more information on what happened during the different aspects of the intervention. For example, what happened during the dietician meeting and what was actually involved in the case management meeting.

4. Please clarify that the intervention group also received usual care.

5. Please specify the look back period for the resource utilization questions. Did you ask people about their consumption in the previous 18 months?

6. Please clarify the reason for reporting costs in 2012 units. This is a bit dated and I presume the willingness to pay threshold is in 2017 or 2018 units?
7. Page 11 line 257. It seems odd to report median ICERS. We are generally interested in the means. Please report the mean if it is available. Also, please clarify that the ICER reported on page 11 line 258 is in the same year of costs as the current study.

8. In the discussion, it would be helpful to comment on the large degree of uncertainty associated with the ICER being cost-effective. Can you please discuss why this is the case.

9. The discussion would also benefit with contrasting and comparing results to the SLIM cost-effectiveness intervention described in the introduction.

10. If the authors are going to discuss the willingness to pay findings in the discussion then they need to provide more detail in the methods and results about how these questions were delivered and how the data were analyzed. Otherwise, the willingness to pay data should not be reported.

11. Table 1. For education, it is unclear as to the meaning of low, middle, and high.

12. Table 2. Please clarify that the costs represent 18-month cumulative costs.

13. Figures 2 and 3 need titles

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

Some of the language in the introduction is awkward.

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.

No

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

Yes

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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No