Reviewer’s report

Title: Identifying and Addressing Gaps in the Implementation of a Community Care Team for Care of Patients with Multiple Chronic Conditions

Version: 1 Date: 15 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Albert Farre

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for inviting me to review this paper, which reports on the development of a toolkit to support future referrals to a programme of chronic care delivery, the Community Care Team (CCT), for which there is pilot data to suggest positive outcomes from both patient and health services perspectives. My main concern with this manuscript is that it does not seem to document a research process as such: for example, the aim/question as stated (page 6, lines 57-60) is solely concerned with the development of a toolkit, rather than concerned with the examination of a research problem; this is reinforced by the conclusions, where the authors state that they successfully created a toolkit as their main finding; but most importantly, there are no research design/methods reported in this paper. The AIDED model is not a methodological framework, as argued by the authors in their response letter to the previous reviewers. The AIDED model could have been used as a conceptual/theoretical framework, to inform either or both data collection and data analysis, but it cannot be characterised as a methodological framework. Alongside this, there is no rationale provided for choice of data collection methods and, very importantly, there is no mention of sampling strategy, participants' recruitment and study setting, or data analysis methods employed. Considering that some of this methodological points had already been raised by previous reviewers, and that the authors had attempted to address them in this revised version of the manuscript, I therefore conclude that the methodological basis of this study was in fact of poor quality (rather than just poorly reported). As a result of the methodological issues, the nature and meaningfulness of the findings presented is this paper cannot be well understood.

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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