Author's response to reviews

Title: Implementation of a self-management support approach (WISE) across a health system. A process evaluation explaining what did and didn't work for organisations, clinicians and patients

Authors:

Anne Kennedy (a.kennedy@soton.ac.uk)
Anne Rogers (a.e.rogers@soton.ac.uk)
Carolyn Chew-Graham (c.a.chew-graham@keele.ac.uk)
Thomas Blakeman (t.m.blakeman@manchester.ac.uk)
Robert Bowen (robert.a.bowen@manchester.ac.uk)
Caroline Gardner (caroline.j.gardner@manchester.ac.uk)
Victoria Lee (victoria.lee@manchester.ac.uk)
Rebecca Morris (Rebecca.morris@manchester.ac.uk)
Joanne Protheroe (j.protheroe@keele.ac.uk)

Version: 5
Date: 25 July 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to editor 22.7.14

Thank you for your responses to our amended paper.

We have now removed all the id numbers from the patients’ quotes as requested.

Thanks for including some references for us to ponder on. We have considered these and feel that whilst the mental health related literature does not fit well with the paper because it is focussed on primary care some of the sentiments regarding implementation failure are indeed relevant. In particular we agree that the role of managers as champions in embedding a culture which allows self-management support to happen is important and we have added a sentence to the discussion:

“together with the lack of identifiable champions in PCT management or in practices to drive the embedding of a culture of SMS.”

We do appreciate the point you made about the potential for negative impact and have added two sentences to the conclusion to spell out the potential consequences for individuals and fiscal costs of health services:

“Implementation failure brings with it potential to negatively impact on individuals’ opportunities to maximise improvements they can make to quality of life in living with a long-term condition. There are also likely significant fiscal costs to the health system if robust SMS is not adopted in primary care given the expectations of decreased utilisation with increased SMS.”

We hope that these revisions will mean the paper is now acceptable for publication

Yours faithfully

Anne Kennedy (on behalf of all authors)