Reviewer’s report

Title: Integration of a Podiatrist into an orthopaedic department: a cost-consequences analysis

Version: 0 Date: 25 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Paul Butterworth

Reviewer's report:

A few standard minor grammatical issues to deal with:

1. Abstract - Under Methods, the "new : review patient ratio" - please remove spaces between words and colon

2. Under Background section - 1st paragraph - the 3rd sentence should be re-worded it is hard to read - suggest removing "or require" - the sentence "suitable discharge plan should be reworded I don't understand who that relates to - the final part of this sentence delete "an operation and expediting these patients to surgeons" and simply say "seeing a surgeon"

3. There are some commas where they don't need to be, for example: paragraph 2 under Background ",for spinal clinics," only requires one comma. Please review paper and correct these minor issues

4. Last paragraph under Background, the 1st sentence you need to rewrite - put was after therefore

5. Please include Ethics number under Methods section

6. Under Patient triage 1st sentence, was should be were

7. Second paragraph under Patient triage section, 2nd sentence - delete "and this also enabled" and replace with "thus enabling"

8. Where you have used colons and semi-colons in this paper (e.g. 2nd paragraph under Patient Triage section, 3rd sentence, use semicolons appropriately

Statistical analyses

1. Is it possible to provide a between group analysis for tables 1 and 2? It would be interesting to see whether these findings are significant
Discussion

1. Well written and concise, a good discussion

2. End of paragraph 3 please put brackets around "255 vs 72…"

3. Paragraph 4, the sentence starting with "Given the lack of…" is a repeat of what you have already said in paragraph 3 so please delete and/or reword

4. Paragraph 5 - sentence 2 is long and hard to read - please break up into 2 sentences rather than one - the words outcomes and reported are overused

5. At the end of paragraph 5, please add an additional limitation - that you can't be sure that those discharged won't return to the waiting list as you did not evaluate the success or otherwise of conservative treatment

6. Your tables require the headings to stand out from the text so please differentiate these with Bold italics

7. Reference 9 - is there a DOI or WWW address you can add?

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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