Reviewer’s report

Title: The lived experience of people with diabetes using off-the-shelf prescription footwear in Singapore: a qualitative study using interpretative phenomenological analysis

Version: 0 Date: 09 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Andrea Graham

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you to the authors for submitting this interesting and well written study that I think has important cultural conclusions for consideration in the prescription and utilisation of prescription footwear within Singapore and people with DFU.

There are a number of considerations that I would kindly ask the authors to consider in the modification of their next submission of this paper:

In the ANALYSIS section can the authors please give a brief justification for the need for bracketing (and their method by which this was done) when using and IPA approach to data analysis.

Can the FINDINGS be retitled as RESULTS as per the requested manuscript preparation guidance? In the RESULTS (FINDINGS) section is it possible for the authors to provide a figure that illustrates Super-ordinate and sub themes- also is it possible to provide a table of demographic data for the 8 participants so that readers can see the homogeneity of the sample used for the study? is it possible for the authors to provide a supportive reference to support their statement about the sample's potential cultural predisposition re: pragmatism and displaying of emotions?

While I agree with the use of the exemplars in the RESULTS section to illustrate the themes that came form the analysis of the data, I do think that the discussion around the themes needs to be a separate section - could the authors therefore create a separate RESULTS and then a DISCUSSION section by pulling the sections of text that are discussion points out of the RESULTS section to form a distinct DISCUSSION section. This then will allow the results to be viewed comprehensively within the context of other current literature and lead naturally onto the concluding summary. Information about the number of males to females in the limitation can also be included in the earlier Methods section where a table of demographic data should be provided and thus would allow the reader a better understanding of the nature of the sample selected from a gender/age/disease duration etc - perspective. Can the authors also support their statement within the limitations section inn realltion to bias and self-esteem? I also feel that the paragraph in the conclusion about the challenges of interviewing participants could be placed within the limitations as part of the discussion section. I think that once these formatting and re-sectioning points are addressed, that this paper will provide the reader with a clearer picture.

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

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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