Reviewer's report

**Title:** Patient experiences living with pancreatic cancer risk

**Version:** 1  
**Date:** 28 November 2014

**Reviewer:** Marcin Lener

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The subject of the study presented in this paper is not innovative but no doubt very important. However, development of schemes to support people in families with familial predisposition to cancer, including pancreatic cancer is very necessary. Therefore the research regarding the feelings, needs, concerns of people with such families are required and of course presented study includes this range of the researches. Unfortunately, whole study is very modest in the transmission, in the description of the study groups and methods/techniques used in the study. During the reading some part of this paper, it appears and begs the mind that drafts or papers prepared by students have a larger reliability value.

**Major Compulsory Revisions:**

1. There are no reliable description of the study group. The authors report the information: "... had participants the personal, genetic, or familial factors implicated that PancCa elevated risk." In the article authors not put information if the participants have had done some tests to determine genetic predisposition to disease? The question is what was the reason of this missing?, especially that the authors gives the information that whole of participants were under academic centers care. Thus, presentation of much more precise analysis of the study group which is not so large (19 people) should not be a huge challenge.

2. Methodology description based on the collection of data through the interview is very rudimentary. There is no pattern or even sample questions addressed to the participants of the study. This eliminates the possibility of replication this study in the future.

3. The results are briefly presented and the information that: “they are described in detail with exemplar quotations listed in Table 2 and within the results” is given exaggerated.

4. Discussion is poorly thought out and does not contain elements that correspond to the aim of the study. It should move the issues:
   - whether the feelings of people in families with familial predisposition to pancreatic cancer are much different from those of the families of the other syndromes associated with cancer?
   - if confronted with an increased awareness of PancCa risk in these patients is changing the attitude of life resulting from the features of character?
   - what type of screening was really performed in individual participants and how
they modulate the attitude of these people?
- whether the level of concern of these people are much different from people from families without familial predisposition to pancreatic cancer but where, there were other cancers? In this case is needed some reference group (in this study such group is not exist);
- as aware of the risk of pancreatic cancer affects the biological age of the respondents?

5. The conclusions set out in the manuscript, it is well-known statement. For more specific rather there is no chance due to the fact that even while maintaining methodology, the same study group (19 people) is too small to reach any compelling conclusions.

Minor Essential Revisions:
Minor grammatical and stylistic errors:
1. Please use "years" after age in The Table 1.
2. And the methods, please replace "was -> were " in the sentence:" Data was collected until ...
3. Please review the work under the terms of the shortcomings of punctuation.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.