Reviewer's report

Title: "A systematic review of training programmes for recruiters to randomised clinical trials"

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Reviewer: Marie Pitkethly

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I think this is a good article that highlights a step in the recruitment process that could have a significant impact on recruitment rate yet is difficult to monitor or control. It points out the discrepancy between the governance for written v. verbal communication and explores whether training for recruiters could be a way to improve recruiter performance with benefits for both the study and the patients. This systematic review is an important first step in developing the evidence base. It is clearly written and follows a robust methodology. The results are mainly descriptive due to a lack of studies with similar training programmes or outcomes. The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and give sensible recommendations for future research on recruiter training.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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