Reviewer’s report

Title: Physical activity promotion in daily exercise therapy: The perspectives of exercise therapists in German rehabilitation settings

Version: 0 Date: 16 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Samantha Harrison

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. I have provided comments for your consideration.

Introduction

1. In the first paragraph please specify the population whose PA levels you are referring to. Is it the general public or people with health conditions i.e. COPD.

Method

2. Please consider the use of a checklist for reporting qualitative research.

3. Please include a brief sentence describing your reasons for dividing the focus groups into disease specific areas of expertise? Considering the prevalence of multi-morbidity in chronic disease populations I wonder if this was necessary.

4. Page 7, line 143: how was the question(s) asked in the focus groups derived?

5. Please provide more detail about the focus groups. For example where were they held, how long did they last etc.

6. Please specify who was responsible for facilitating the focus groups and reflect on their professional background, training and relationship with those participating in the focus groups.

7. Did the focus group participants know each other, if yes please reflect on how this could have influenced their responses.

8. Please specify who was involved in each stage of the analysis.

Results
9. Please comment on the fact that there was greater agreement in the orthopaedic focus group than in the addiction focus group. Why do you think this was? This could be a discussion point.

10. Can you please specify if you are describing results from each individual focus group or if findings from the focus groups have been compared and contrasted (add to methods). At times, you describe findings "in relation to" specific focus groups. Does this mean this topic was only raised in this particular focus group or is this just an example (e.g. pg 11, line 252). Please make this clear throughout the results section.

Discussion

11. Page 22, line 518 and page 26, line 623: please replace the word "prove" with "demonstrate" or a word to that effect.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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