Reviewer’s report

Title: Informing the development of online weight management interventions: A qualitative investigation of primary care patient perceptions

Version: 0 Date: 16 May 2017

Reviewer: Jewel Gausman

Reviewer's report:

Line 67: Perhaps it would be useful to describe examples of some e-health interventions to give the reader an idea about what the range of interventions is?

Line 90: Similar comment as above. Perhaps you could briefly summarize the content/approach of the three interventions?

Line 90: Are the 3 interventions considered for the study similar? Please provide some rationale for conducting a pooled analysis, given that there may be important differences between the interventions that would impact the key study questions.

Line 151: Is there an underlying theory of behavior change used to identify the stages that you discuss in Box 2? It would strengthen your discussion/analysis if it were rooted in theory.

Line 196: This sentence doesn't seem to be supported by the quotations below it. If this is an important point you want to make, I suggest trying to distill it a little more with either a different selection of quotes, by emphasizing the previous point more to bring out the contrast, or by discussing it more in the text.

Line 213: missing a comma or revise sentence structure (confusingly written)

Line 277-284: This quotation doesn't really seem to fit with the idea in the previous paragraph emphasizing the desire to be able to set personal preferences. Perhaps there is a better quotation that illustrates this point more clearly?

Line 287-294: This idea seems to be a little underdeveloped. Is there more you can say here about this, as this seems to be an important finding about these apps.
Line 302: wording is confusing, especially "close to guaranteed success." Perhaps rephrase. Also, is there a quote to support that statement that the intervention must feel effortless? I do not get that point from the quote selected.

Line 343-352: This section seems to be a bit misplaced. Not sure how it fits with the translating motivation to action. It seems to be more focused on the initial motivation section or under the continued use section. Or, if you want to leave it here, consider including more of a transition to this idea as it seems to be an abrupt change from the previous paragraph.

Line 462: Another important limitation worth discussion may be the gender dimension (70% female) and that few men agreed to participate in the follow-up meeting.

Line 480-485: As you are focusing on the dimension of social support in the discussion, this is another reason why it would be useful to flesh out the section on social support more fully in the results section to make sure that they support each other.

Line 486: Here you mention young people, but what strikes me about your sample is that participants tend to be older and this emerges as being important to their use of these websites (especially in relation to LiveStrong). It would be useful to discuss this here a bit in contrast with the existing literature.

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

Yes

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

Unable to assess

**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:

Acceptable

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