Reviewer’s report

Title: Research protocol for a complex intervention to support hearing and visual function to improve the lives of people with dementia

Version: 0 Date: 07 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Laura Hughes

Reviewer's report:
This study protocol for a visual and auditory intervention is very ambitious, the area of research is very interesting and could have a great impact on the well-being and functioning of those requiring assistance with implementing and maintaining visual and auditory functioning. The inclusion of a variety of stakeholders is very beneficial to the development of the intervention. I have some comments about the manuscript below.

1. Titles and numbering of tables are incorrect; there are two table 1s, thus table 3 is incorrectly labelled as table 2 and table 4 incorrectly labelled as table 3

2. Page 13 line 2, should say Table 3, not Table 2.

3. Please do not use 'affected participant' use an alternative like 'person with dementia' 'participant with impairment' or simply 'participant' as you refer to 'affected participant' and 'significant other' together.

4. You state that quality of life instruments are to be used. You include a measure of loneliness, as outlined in Table 3. If this is intended to measure quality of life it is not appropriate. Loneliness is one component that could affect overall quality of life in dementia, it will not give you an indication of overall quality of life. I would suggest a dementia specific quality of life instrument along with a sensory impairment quality of life instrument, if one exists.
5. Please indicate the severity of participants with dementia. You state you intend to include people with mild to moderate dementia in step 4. Is this the same for the other steps? Could you also give a reason why you are only including mild to moderate and not severe?

6. There is not mention in text of the process for capacity assessment or the use of personal consultees. The declaration on page 25 states all participants must have capacity, I suggest mentioning this in the participants or recruitment sections on pages 9 and 10 and stating whether and how capacity is assessed.

**Level of interest**

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**

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