Reviewer's report

Title: Pilot Parallel Randomised Controlled Trial of Protective Socks against Usual Care to Reduce Skin Tears in High Risk People: 'STOPCUTS'

Version: 0 Date: 22 May 2017

Reviewer: Karen Ousey

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your paper which addresses an issue that requires investigation - I enjoyed reading it.

Skin tears are often overlooked in research studies and there is little information regarding the prevalence and cost of these.

Please note that slow recruitment is repeated several times in the manuscript - this may require attention.

Please do not shorten words e.g. didn't this is better written as did not; wasn't - was not

Please review this sentence as I find it difficult to understand: Recruitment to the pilot study was easier from GP practices than from volunteers or care homes, having a conversion of approached to consented of 1 in 2 potential participants

The participants mention that the socks are too warm at times, you have mentioned the possibility of them being made thinner - however this may affect the reliability to protect the skin. I believe this is an important area for future investigation as many countries will experience much longer warmer seasons than the UK. If the socks are a reliable intervention for prevention of skin tears then they would be a useful adjunct internationally.
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

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