Reviewer’s report

Title: Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment Pilot of a Randomized Control Study in a Swedish Acute Hospital: A Feasibility Study

Version: 2 Date: 14 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Marie-Louise Bird

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this interesting manuscript.

This paper describes the protocol and pilot study of a planned large trial.

Generally, I think that this is an interesting topic and a large body of work that should be published. The flow of the order of information, however, is confusing with the authors moving rapidly and repeatedly from current to past and then future tense.

I think that the pilot study has been undertaken, and the therefore the results presented, but even in the abstract this is not clear

Lines 34 to 36 'A pilot study exploring frail people aged 75 years or older will …The pilot study was…'

This is repeated numerous times throughout the paper, and some separation of the protocol and data from the pilot study is needed for this paper to be clear to the new reader.

There are several examples of word use that are not clear

Abstract;

Line 31 'secured' does not make sense in this context to me. Is it 'carried out?'
Background.

This section is quite long and may be streamlined without losing the meaning I think. Please consider changing some of the following words or phrases to make the meaning clearer.

Line 70 'the problem' Is this the problem that resulted in admission - please clarify.

Line 74 'the future of in-patient acute medical is going to be the care of’…Perhaps this will be a major focus, but not 'is'. Consider; 'a major focus in the future of ….'

Line 83 'tapped out' is a colloquial phrase that is not clear.

Line 84 please provide a reference for this

Line 157 Pilot sample size - I do not think that it is required that you justify this with so much text - one sentence would suffice.

Line 279 'performs' is written in current tense - will they do this or did they do this?

Line 370 differences between the two groups are well described

Line 492 data from the pilot study will be used (correctly) to determine the sample size of the main study, however the number of participants in the main trial is not calculated from the pilot data and it is one of the most valuable outputs from the pilot study.

I cannot see in the pilot study results where the data for the main trial is calculated (from the pilot data - a theoretical sample size based on ADL is presented in lines 255-267) ie results of adl (mean and SD) and how the actual drop out rate is used to calculate sample size. This is a significant issue that I believe needs addressing.
**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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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