Reviewer’s report

Title: Anesthesiology Control Tower: Feasibility Assessment to Support Translation (ACTFAST)- a feasibility study protocol

Version: 0 Date: 12 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Claire Chan

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written and interesting manuscript. Please find my suggested revisions below which I hope will help improve this article:

Title: Please state that this is a 'feasibility study' in the title.

Abstract: It would be good to mention the future definitive RCT. i.e. include a sentence in the abstract explaining that results will inform the revision of the prototype, which will then be evaluated in the form of a definitive RCT.

Background: Improved structure for this would be to start the background section with a paragraph on how anesthesiology processes currently operate, followed by some explanation of why this needs to be improved, followed by a more thorough description of the ACT and more thorough explanation of in what way you expect ACT to improve things. Then this can be followed with your uncertainties about the feasibility/usability of ACT and reasons for needing to conduct a feasibility study i.e. testing the usability and identifying problems prior to the main trial. Please then explicitly list your specific feasibility objectives.

pg 4 lines 76-78: It wasn't immediately obvious to me whether (2) here is the same as phase II described in the abstract with the in-situ usability analysis. Perhaps make this more explicit.

pg 5 lines 99 and 100: Approval for this protocol would be better placed at the end of the document e.g. near ethics approval.

pg 6: You describe how participants will be recruited via email, but more description and clarity is needed here on exactly how participants will be identified.

pg 6: Do you have eligibility criteria for participants in your feasibility study? Will you obtain written consent from participants for collection of data on them?
Methods: This section should relate back to your specific feasibility objectives that you list in the background section, with explanation of how you will assess/measure each objective.

pg 8 line 152: Would help to have some examples of the closed-ended questions. Do you have any study instruments with the questions you will be asking that you can include in the appendix?

pg 8 lines 154-155. What are the data management procedures? How will the data be stored?

pg 10 line 209: You mention measures of effectiveness. Do you mean potential effectiveness of the ACT? You should include a caveat about the small sample size.

Discussion pg 12 lines 244 and 252: delete 'the'; include 'on'

pg 15 line 310: iPhone

Funding: You say that this protocol has not received any specific grants from funding agencies, but will you be receiving funding for the actual feasibility study? If so please detail this.

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:

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