Reviewer’s report

Title: Project HELP: A study protocol to pilot test a shared-decision making tool about treatment options for patients with Hepatitis C and Chronic Kidney Disease

Version: 0 Date: 04 Dec 2017

Reviewer: Heather Mackinnon

Reviewer's report:

This is a very well written and very interesting article. I have a few suggestions as detailed below:

L132 reads "time on dialysis, and ta" and I think it should say "a" rather than "ta"

L143 could "labeling in end organ disease" be further explained? As I'm not a specialist in this field the meaning of this comment was unclear.

It sounds like the tool has been developed iteratively using a range of experts and the literature base and this process would benefit from further description - has this development work been presented or published elsewhere? If so a reference would be useful. If not, it may be useful to describe this process in more detail...It also sounds like a larger programme of work is being undertaken (eg the qualitative interviews) and this paper would benefit from more clarity regarding the overall project - maybe a figure to show how this piece of work fits into the larger project??

Outcome measures:

An excellent range of outcome measures are described - do the authors have any insight into the effect sizes likely to be produced? Obviously this will be useful to inform a power calculation in later testing, but it would also be useful to consider what effect sizes other tools/interventions have produced with these outcome measures; as well as, what is a clinically important difference to both the patient and the professional as well as the benefits compared to the cost of administering the tool...
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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