Reviewer’s report

Title: Ambulatory Toxicity Management (AToM) Pilot: Results of a pilot study of a pro-active, telephone-based intervention to improve toxicity management during chemotherapy for breast cancer

Version: 0 Date: 09 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Sehrish Sajjad

Reviewer's report:

Overall, it is a well-written manuscript. The study topic under discussion is need-based and the study purpose and significance are well described in the article. Moreover, study limitations are clearly explained. Following are my queries and suggestions:

1. The study design is not explicitly written. It appears that it is a clinical trial with an intervention and a control group; however, clarity is needed. Moreover, if it is a trial, figure 1 can be modified into a CONSORT flow diagram.

2. On page 4, within the third paragraph, add impact of study on identifying incidence rates of ED and hospitalization visits as one of the purposes.

3. The article does not state anything about group allocation between intervention and control, nor there is any mention of bias in selecting the participants. Though study participants are mentioned, inclusion and exclusion criteria should be clearly written.

4. Nurse interventionists should have been trained in both centers to ensure consistency in delivering the intervention. It can be acknowledged in the limitation somewhere.

5. Heading 'recruitment and retention' should come after 'setting and participants' instead of falling under results heading. Moreover, after describing the intervention, it would be nice to describe control participants' and their selection.

6. Table 1 indicates only study participants' characteristics. The readers may wish to see data of control group participants as well to infer for similarities and differences among the groups. In addition, there are some errors in calculation in the 'total column'. For example, against row "college/university of higher", the total participant count should be 56 instead of 66. Also, total participant count is 76 instead of 77 in 'combined household income', 'stage', 'treatment intent', 'regimen' etcetera. Kindly recheck percentages of all the percentages in the table.
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