Reviewer’s report

Title: A controlled pilot trial of a nurse-led intervention (Mini-AFTERc) to manage fear of cancer recurrence in patients affected by breast cancer

Version: 1 Date: 21 Feb 2020

Reviewer: Zoe Moon

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for making the suggested changes. I just have two very minor queries -

1- with regards to the control sites and the intervention sites, are you recording what the standard treatment is? As far as I am aware this can vary a lot across sites in terms of the amount of follow up care that patients will receive. I think this could be worth recording and comparing.

2- Page 15 describes the screening process: "Screening includes the Fear of Cancer Recurrence 4-item (FCR4) measure (27) and participant demographical information; age (in years), cancer treatments received, education, employment and living situation." The authors responded that the demographic information is collected to assess whether the two groups are similar and who benefits most from the intervention. The way this is worded in the paper implies that participants are being screened for eligibility on the demographic measures. Is this the case?

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