Reviewer’s report

Title: Findings from an exploration of a social network intervention to promote diet quality and health behaviours in older adults with COPD: a feasibility study

Version: 0 Date: 23 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Kohei Maruya

Reviewer's report:

Many COPD patients are thin, frail, and have sarcopenia. Moreover, breathing difficulties and psychological problems may restrict their physical activities. Therefore, this pilot study is valuable for the development of COPD care. For the manuscript to be accepted, the authors need to revise and consider some corrections while paying attention to the writing of the manuscript.

Each table is somewhat complicated with too many lines and letters.

P-value is not included in Table 2, although it is included in Table 1. In Table 2, the results lead to the suggestions regarding interventions for the 3-month follow-ups. Therefore, I believe that P-values from paired tests are necessary. Furthermore, because the number of participants is small, I recommend that the author input effect sizes, as necessary.

In the control group, is there a relationship between the participants who dropped out and a decrease in diet quality score and physical activity?

In contrast, the authors describe that the GENIE intervention had a protective effect against decline in diet quality and other health-associated behaviors in the older COPD population. I believe that 3 months is insufficient to assess how well life style, including diet quality or physical activity, has changed.

Therefore, I have doubts about the efficacy of the GENIE intervention.

The authors should describe these points in the conclusion and consider these points in their future studies.
Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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Were you mentored through this peer review?

No