Reviewer's report

Title: Biobanking from the patient perspective

Version: 2 Date: 4 February 2015

Reviewer: Eric Low

Reviewer's report:

Overall, this is an excellent and timely paper and the authors are to be congratulated.

I have a number of very minor comments:

1. Additional information could be included as to the benefits of bio-banking research for current and future patients as well as payers and healthcare systems

2. Clearer delineation could be made between the role of patients and the public. The words patient and public are often used together and interchangeably but the issues, interests and roles of each are likely to be quite different. Patients who are contributing to a disease-specific bank are likely to have different interests to a member of the general public giving tissue to a general bio-bank or who are involved in governance or consent. Clearer delineation could be made in the article and more consistent use of the each word when referring to levels and types of involvement

- more information on the role of PPI in ensuring the processes and mechanisms by which tissue is used for research and by whom could be included. Given the scarcity of samples and the difficulty involved in getting the right amount and type of tissue from which to do research is very difficult and therefore it can't be wasted on doing mediocre research. It must only be used for the best possible research. Too often, tissue is seen as the property and asset of an institution or researcher - they may not be the ones best placed to use it as a research resource.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have competing interests.