Reviewer’s report

Title: Patient and Public Involvement in reducing health and care research waste

Version: 0 Date: 30 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Malcolm Macleod

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This is an important area for discussion, but I was somewhat disappointed both in the presentation (I had to read it a number of times to make sense of it) and in the detail provided. To be able to critically appraise this work (ie make a judgement about how likely the presented findings are to represent ground truth) I (as the reader) need to see the questionnaire, and to know the number of persons invited to contribute. Does this represent a 100% response, or 10%, or 1%? Further, it is in my view no longer sufficient to say that data are available "on reasonable request" - they should be published in full in supplementary material or made available in a public repository.

Coming to interpretation, I wonder if the authors might reflect that the importance attributed by the participants to the various sources of waste might reflect their experiences and accumulated biases - that is, you are probably more likely to get involved with such activities if you think patient and user involvement is important and if you think current research prioritisation is wrong.

To be clear, there is nothing in this that I think is wrong; but I think I need to hold the people with whom I agree to the same standards to which I hold others.

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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
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Needs some language corrections before being published

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