Reviewer’s report

Title: Effective involvement: a report on the evaluation of a research awareness training package for public involvement in health research

Version: 1 Date: 01 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Mogens Horder

Reviewer's report:

The Authors have addressed a challenge that all working with PPI will meet- have met. How to train lay participants, content , format ?? . The findings stress the diversity in the needs and outcomes of training for PPI for lay people. This may not be too exciting or new knowledge for those that for some years have worked within the PPI concept . The contribution from the this project is to documentation that this diversity.

I wonder why the authors haven’t challenged the approach to PPI that is the basis for the evaluation: that lay people should become competent to participate and contribute to all steps in a research cycle . It seems to me that the authors must have had such discussions-the discussion section is the far most interesting part of this paper.

Have the authors considered a conclusion from the project like this: - "that although training enables lay people to feel more confident as partners in research it does not support the individual participant to understand -what is in it for me ? how did I contribute ?.

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