Reviewer’s report

Title: Learning from patient involvement in a clinical study analyzing PET/CT in women with advanced breast cancer

Version: 0 Date: 08 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Stephanie Howard Wilsher

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting manuscript about PPI. It is important to ensure that PPI is involved in all research from the outset to make it more relevant to those for which the research is focussed. Please see Patient and public involvement in health literacy interventions: a mapping review, Howard Wilsher et al 2017, which gives detailed information about how PPI was used and the effect on outcomes. The authors may wish to read and reference this.

The language needs to be checked throughout the document. There are issues with the tense used and putting together of sentences.

Page 3 Line 54 and all other instances - remove "representative

Page 3 Lines 61-64 - these sentences should be refined and made more user friendly. Eg. line 60, change to "In previous research fewer patients....."

Page 4 - Perhaps add something about early PPI is preferable - see study above.

Page 4 Line 93 - sentence needs revision as per general comments above about language.

Page 5 Line 101 - revise sentence.

Line 107 - change have been to were

Line 113 remove previously

Page 6 Line 134 - what do you mean by defined qualifications?

Line 135 - change to acknowledgment

Page 7 and 12- Funding activities - is this necessary? I don't think it adds anything to the study and perhaps PPI input could be added to Page 16 Line 371.

Page 9 - would be nice to have a PPI quote too.

Page 13 Line 297 - change "disgraced"
Line 313 - Perhaps the materials developed by PPI made a difference to recruitment?

Page 14 Line 324 - PPI was involved in materials development not study design?

Would recruitment have been greater if PPI had helped the research recruit?

I do not think that Table 1 is necessary.

I do not think figure 1 is necessary or should have the inclusion of when PPI started.

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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