Reviewer’s report

Title: Patient and Public Involvement in doctoral research: Reflections and experiences of the PPI contributors and researcher

Version: 0 Date: 14 Mar 2020

Reviewer: Kristina Staley

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written piece and clearly describes the process and impact of involvement in a research project.

Another useful reference to include is the following:

Coupe Patient and public involvement in doctoral research: Impact, resources and recommendations. Health Expectations, Epub ahead of print, DOI: 10.1111/hex.12976

Two issues I would have liked to have seen covered in this paper are:

- the research project was about PPI - what are the implications of that in terms of who to involve - whose experiential knowledge is relevant - is it different to involving people in health research?

- are there different lessons about PPI in doctoral research - or is it the same as other research? Other than resource issues and size of the project - is anything else significant?

So far it's not clear to me that PPI in doctoral research is much different.

Tackling either one of these issues in more depth would give the paper a lift - at present it's another well-described piece of evidence of impact but is saying a lot that is similar to other such reports.

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