Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Factors that Influence Rheumatologists’ Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha Prescribing Decisions: A Qualitative Study

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 16 May 2019

**Reviewer:** Liana Fraenkel

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors address an important topic in this paper. My main criticism relates to the methods of recruitment. It is unclear how participants were purposefully sampled. It does not appear that an effort was made to ensure that rheumatologist were recruited to ensure representation of diverse backgrounds, practice settings, and experience. Most importantly, recruitment did not include an approach to ensure thematic saturation.

There are numerous papers describing multiple reasons why physicians do not adhere to guidelines. It is not clear what specific gap in the literature this paper addresses or whether the results add significantly to what is already known. Moreover, the interview appears to assume that physicians are aware of the guidelines and are able to access cost information. These may in fact be important barriers, likely perhaps to be experienced by those who did not wish to participate in the study.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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