

Reviewer's report

Title: Understanding uptake of continuous quality improvement in Indigenous primary health care: lessons from a multi-site case study of the Audit and Best Practice for Chronic Disease (ABCD)project

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Reviewer: Rosie Forster

Reviewer's report:

General comments

This paper addresses the significant issue of improving Indigenous health care services. The authors have focussed on describing and studying the implementation of an innovation, in a challenging context, which I think is very relevant to readers of Implementation Science.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The paper uses the terms 'process' and 'processes' throughout and sometimes this became a bit confusing as to what this actually means or refers to, for example the last para in the Background section.
2. The Background section of the abstract refers to an 'ecological' approach. This term is not used again or explained within the paper. Some readers may be not be familiar with this approach.
3. Background section of the paper says that the focus is confined to the initial year of engagement – it would be helpful to be more specific about this timeframe here and in other parts of the paper, such as the methods, for the reader to be clear about the timeframe, for example in the results section the timeframe referred to is Jan 2006-Dec 2008.
4. I think the conclusion could be stronger ie more specific about the clear messages for policymakers and health authorities, for example the recommendation about 'integrated governance arrangements'. The attached figure/model of 'characteristics that enabled uptake' very useful – could not see the figure number on this?

Minor Essential Revisions

1. In Results/ABCD Attributes/Relative Advantage: change 'discreet' to 'discrete'?
2. Figure number on 'uptake' model

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a

statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests