

Reviewer's report

Title: The role of facilitation in implementation of research findings: a qualitative evaluation of facilitation experiences in the Veterans Health Administration

Version: 2 Date: 30 August 2006

Reviewer: Luciana Ballini

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

I thank the authors for having given such careful thoughts to my previous comments. Although I still hold the view that facilitation refers to the whole process of barriers identification-removal, I appreciate the authors' view and approach which considers facilitation an implementation intervention. I appreciate the integrations made to the text. In consideration of the questions added to Table 8, the distinction between external and internal facilitator reported in page 10 and the recurrent reference to main objectives and key components of external facilitation (page 11, 14 etc.) I would strongly advise to change the title from "The role of facilitation" to "The role of external facilitation"

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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.