

Review of: "Effectiveness of a novel multi-modal intervention for family caregivers of persons with age-related macular degeneration: a randomised controlled trial"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

1. Summary Objective

The goal of this study is to examine the efficacy of a novel intervention aiming to improve the burden and wellbeing of family carers of individuals with age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

In my opinion, the manuscript is suitable, the idea is quite nice and original, but some improvements are required for the paper are as follows:

- (1): **The introduction section** would benefit from the inclusion of additional references concerning the effects of AMD;
- (2): **In method section**: for the inclusion criteria, (18 years and older.), I think you must exactly fix the ages (mean age for each groups), a different age may influence the results, so if it's possible check this out. Also the repartition of groups need to be more described in the study design and protocol **paragraph**.
- (3): **In table2**: you mention just the women gender with percentage. There is no participation for man in the study?
- (4): **In discussion section**: I suggest to replace this paragraph to the study limitation and future perspective :

Future studies investigating combined interventions should consider using more recruitment and participant retention strategies. Recruitment strategies could include use of more recruitment centres including private and public ophthalmology clinics, retinal disease and low vision support services, as well as use of public service announcements via community presentations, targeted newsletters and brochures with a detailed description of the intervention in plain language. Participant retention strategies include financial incentives, more options for alternative data collection methods (e.g. face-to-face, via telephone) and personal reminders. Furthermore, inclusion criteria could be made less specific to include informal caregivers who were not direct relatives of the patient.