Reviewer's report

Title: Leaders, leadership and future primary care research

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Reviewer: Barbara Starfield

Reviewer's report:

This article addresses an important topic. However, there are some issues that need to be addressed.

1. There is a substantial literature on this topic. Perhaps the most recent review of the issue of primary care research in global medicine is presented by Beasley et al in the Nov-Dec issue of Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine.

2. There is no mention of the very important experience with collaborative practice-based primary care research in the US---perhaps hundred of articles by various authors in the national networks of both Family Medicine (originally ASPN but not with a different name) and Pediatrics (PROS)----as well as from scores of papers from smaller networks of primary care researchers.

3. This paper, as judged from Table 1, is primarily limited to CLINICAL primary care research. (Of course there is basic conceptual and methodological research as well as health services research, policy-related research, and research on educational issues. Perhaps it is wise to limit your attention to clinical research including adding the word 'clinical' to the title.

(If you have the book by Starfield (Oxford University Press, 1998) please check the chapter on primary care research for the status of the issue as of ten years ago.)

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.