Reviewer’s report

Title: Optimizing patient-centeredness in the transitions of healthcare systems in low- and middle-income countries

Version: 2 Date: 8 July 2014

Reviewer: Katrien Bombeke

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While I'm satisfied that many comments were addressed by the authors in reviewing their paper, I still find myself disappointed in the way the construct of patient-centred care is dealt with. I agree that patient-centredness is a fundamental prerequisite for quality health care, but it is not a synonym of quality health care. Patient centered care is a clearly defined theoretical construct.

The definition of the IoM is rather vague, while Stewart, Mead & Bower and Epstein provide clearly operationalized definitions or even elaborated clinical methods. The other reviewer also refers to this by suggesting that the authors should dig into the literature.

I'm afraid that this is a very fundamental remark that remains unmet - however, the paper as such does contribute to the critical debate on how to foster patient centered care worldwide

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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