Reviewer's report

Title: Speaking up for patient safety by hospital-based health care professionals: a literature review

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Reviewer: Michaela Kolbe

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Speaking up for patient safety by hospital-based health care professionals: a literature review

Thank you for the opportunity to review the revised version of this paper. The authors have done a very good job in revising their paper, for example by relating their review findings to existing literature. Overall, I think the paper is much more focused and provides a great overview of factors related to speaking up in healthcare.

I have some minor comments and questions, please find them below.

1. I did not see the authors stating a particular research gap they are aiming to fill with the review. I think stating a gap would help the reader understanding the review’s purpose and findings, particularly in light of the number of already existing studies. What gap did the authors have in mind?

2. As I understand the authors’ definition of speaking up, they focused on the preventive aspect of voicing, not on the promoting aspect such as sharing ideas. I think that’s understandable for the purpose of the review, but I suggest stating this explicitly.

3. Based on their review of the literature, what do the authors think about differences in barriers to speaking up in healthcare compared to other industries?

4. Regarding the results on the effectiveness of speaking up for patient safety, I noticed that the authors summarized studies investigating a) the low occurrence of speaking up and b) the relationship of speaking up to outcome variables. I think these are two different research approaches, also with regard to the methodology used in these studies. I think explicitly stating these differences would extend existing speaking up literature. How do the authors see it?

5. How exactly does the proposed model extend Morrison’s model? I assume it’s the special application to healthcare. What the authors’ intention?

6. How exactly does the proposed model help understanding speaking up? I think proving a few examples and implications would be very useful.

7. In light of new leadership concepts such as leader inclusiveness which have been related to speaking up I wonder how the authors regard the importance of leadership in healthcare for speaking up / being spoken up to.
I am looking forward to the revision!

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.