Reviewer's report

Title: Methods on the move: a critical reflection on two decades of "negotiating" Cochrane standards and protocols for producing qualitative evidence syntheses

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Reviewer: Mark Petticrew

Reviewer's report:

I think the authors have done a really excellent job in revising this. There is now a really detailed and thoughtful description of the evolution of the use of qualitative methods over time, and some of the relevant historical events are noted (e.g. Jennie Popay's plenary). There are not many papers which do this and I do think it is important to capture some of this history and reflection as the field advances. So this is a valuable contribution.

Minor things -
The title of Figure 1 seems odd ("Timetrend figure" etc).
I resume the anniversary that is referred to in the last sentence of the paper is the next "20th" anniversary (not just the next anniversary - i.e. next year..."

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

None