Reviewer’s report

Title: Systematic Reviews and Cancer Research: A Suggested Stepwise Approach

Version: 0 Date: 07 Jan 2018

Reviewer: Pooria Sarrami

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for working on this important and practical matter. The following comments will hopefully help improving the paper:

1. Page 4 lines 73-75, systematic review of previous systematic reviews (SRPSR), is also described as 'Meta-reviews' (suggested citation: "Sarrami-Foroushani, P., Travaglia, J., Debono, D., Clay-Williams, R., & Braithwaite, J. (2015). Scoping meta-review: introducing a new methodology. Clinical and translational science, 8(1), 77-81.")

2. Will it be possible to modify the current PRISMA tools to make them specific to a SRPSR?

3. The paper is too lengthy at this current form. It will be much more efficient if the authors deliver the same message in less words. The more the author can reduce, the better will be the readability of the paper.

4. However, it is still necessary to expand the discussion on summarising the results of multiple systematic reviews. How the authors will conclude if half of the systematic reviews support a treatment, but the other half didn't? Will authors give similar weight to each systematic review? These will be the most important aspects especially when it is not possible to do a new meta-analysis.

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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