Reviewer’s report

Title: Rural definition of health: A literature review

Version: 2 Date: 27 January 2015

Reviewer: Daniel Exeter

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Minor essential revisions

Explain to the readers why other countries with very large areas of rurality are excluded? It seems that the authors allude to key occupational-driven definitions of health. Granted, some of these are agrarian, or farming communities, but a more proximal definition of rurality would enable important research from other countries (UK, others from Europe, Asia, Africa etc) to be included in the study.

Perhaps the inclusion of rural, vs remote rural would better delineate (and better cover) key international papers from the past 40 years

The focus on patient centred care is contemporary and important, but warrants a stronger discussion in relation to the findings.

Given the global coverage of the BMC series, a focus beyond America in the conclusions is warranted.

Discretionary

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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