Reviewer's report

Title: Building an innovative Chagas disease program for primary care units, in an urban non-endemic city.

Version: 1 Date: 10 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Michael Reich

Reviewer's report:

This is an important paper about an innovative public-private partnership to provide treatment for Chagas disease in Argentina. Overall the paper seems to have two different purposes: 1) to demonstrate the feasibility of this innovative program, and 2) to describe the healthcare barriers and to explore the implementation process. The authors could explain better how these two purposes are related to each other in the paper. More structured discussion would also be helpful about how the barriers were overcome by the public-private association.

Specific comments;

line 16: Abstract: Please explain how you "prove the feasibility"; perhaps it should be "demonstrate" rather than "prove"

lines 72-72: Was Ramon Castillo the Minister of Health? Explain his position.

Line 79: There is an error here; surely the authors do not mean "1940" since Alma Ata Declaration happened in 1978.

Line 89: Again, as noted above: Please explain how you "prove the feasibility"; perhaps it should be "demonstrate" rather than "prove"

Lines 116-117: Explain what the four dimensions of the Peters D model are, and why the authors selected this model.
Lines 120-122: Explain briefly what the implementation model is from Damshroder, and why this model was selected and how it was used.

Lines 136-139: Explain how the four dimensions of access barriers were analyzed; what methods were used to assess these access barriers?

Lines 151-152: How were the characteristics ranked "according to needs for improvement and strategic relevance"? What methods were used for ranking?

Line 155: What amount of financial resources was provided by Mundo Sano?

Line 175, Table 3: How was this table completed through implementation analysis? What methods were used? Were there any conclusions from the implementation analysis? How is this information related to "feasibility" of implementation?

Lines 185-217: This information on what happened in the project belongs earlier in the paper, rather than in the Discussion.

Lines 235-237: Mundo Sano made important contributions to this project, by buying equipment and by investing in training; how will this be continued by the municipal government to continue this program and also implement the program in other cities?

Lines 258-261: Is continued involvement by MS necessary to assure the program will continue? In what ways, and Why?

Line 277: Some brief discussion about the sustainability of public-private associations (to assure continued programs for ChD diagnosis and treatment) would be helpful. Can this kind of program be implemented in other countries where MS is not active? What are the necessary conditions for successful implementation?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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Not relevant to this manuscript

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Needs some language corrections before being published

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