Reviewer’s report

Title: Towards appropriate information provision for and decision-making with patients with limited health literacy in hospital-based palliative care in Western countries: a scoping review into available communication strategies and tools for healthcare providers

Version: 0 Date: 11 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Yoshiyuki Kizawa

Reviewer’s report:

This is the scoping review to summarize available strategies and tools for HCPs for LHL patients in hospital-based palliative care. This is very important issue clinically and I think this review is very informative for both clinicians and researchers.

Major issue:

1) Please describe the definition of hospital-based palliative care. Does this mean in-patient hospice care/palliative care unit or hospital based palliative care consultation or both?

2) Why do you exclude the study about terminal phase of care and end-of-life care? I think it is important to include studies in EOLC. Please explain about this in the manuscript.

3) Why do you conduct literature review that limit studies conducted in a Western country?

The number of studies that included this scoping review is very limited, so I would like to know why do you conduct literature search so narrow. I personally think there are not much difference between western and eastern countries about strategies and tools for LHL patients.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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