Reviewer’s report

Title: Trust in Group Decisions: A Scoping Review

Version: 0 Date: 24 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Boaz Shulruf

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for presenting this manuscript for review, which I have read with great interest.

The manuscript aims (1) to examine the definition of trust in the context of group decisions; (2) to examine what factors may influence trust within a group and from the perspective of those who rely on competency committees to make collective decisions regarding trainee competence; and (3) to propose a model to illustrate the relationship between trust at the individual and group levels.

The aims are of great values. However, it was difficult for me to find the extent to which these aims have been met. In the following I present a few suggestions for the authors which I believe may improve the manuscript and add value to it.

Structure: Structuring the manuscript around its aims would better clarify the text and would make it easier for the readers.

Definitions: It is important to establish a set of definition for key concepts/constructs rather than starting with none and looking for these at the literature. For example: a definition of a group is essential and must appear at the beginning of the manuscript. The term collectivism appears towards the end of the manuscript but it is strongly related to the definition of a group and therefore needs to be presented early. Overall it is important to know how a group is defined in this manuscript before trust is discussed.

Inclusion/exclusion criteria: Although roughly presented these criteria have not been clear enough. I am doubtful if replicating the literature search based on the information presented would yield the same results. Search strategy needs to be clear transparent and reproducible.

Presenting tables with little contribution to the text: The tables and the figures are referred to by the text but not in a way that they add clarity. More importantly, models (i.e. Fig 2-3 ) need careful explanation of all components and associations presented. These have not been clearly presented in the manuscript.

Overall the topic is of great importance and I command the authors for undertaking this endeavourer. I hope they find the comments above helpful.
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.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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