Reviewer’s report

Title: Mapping clinical reasoning literature across the Health Professions: A scoping review

Version: 0 Date: 14 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

No - there are major issues

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

No - there are minor issues

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are minor issues
OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Maybe - with major revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The study has a laudable goal in coming to understand "How is clinical reasoning (and associated terms) defined and conceptualized in the Health Professions Education (HPE) literature?" How, there is a fundamental error in the methods. The research question includes "(and other associated terms)", and these include clinical judgement and clinical decision-making, which are not included in the search strategy. Moreover, there are a range of literature sources that have been omitted from final list of 625 studies. (I note that figure 1 says 625 articles but page 9 says 635 articles). Importantly it is not clear what the specific criteria were to meet the definition of inclusion because these are not clearly articulated. The list of questions for data extraction in appendix 2 are not "definitions" for inclusion/exclusion, and so it's hard to see how 14702 was distilled down to 625 or 635. Some 11887 were removed at screening of titles and abstract but the scope that was used to do this is not clearly articulated.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

Must clarify the scope of the review in the research questions., which cannot have words in parentheses

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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