Reviewer's report

Title: Screening for infectious diseases of asylum seekers upon arrival: the necessity of the moral principle of reciprocity

Version: 0 Date: 12 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Diego Silva

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper regarding the reciprocal obligations society has towards asylum seekers. Overall, I thought this was a very well reasoned and written paper. It will be an important contribution to the public health ethics/global health ethics literature. I propose some minor revisions that will hopefully strengthen the paper:

1. Pg. 2, line 69 - The use of the term "public right" is ambiguous and unclear. Suggest stating explicitly what is meant by this term or removing it.

2. Pg. 3, lines 80-81 - The last sentence of this paragraph is unclear and awkwardly worded. Suggest it is rewritten.

3. Pg. 3, lines 83-84 - The terms "normative decisions" and "justification principle" need to be explained. They are not self-evident in their meaning so clarifying them would be important for readers.

4. Pg. 3, line 104 - Lawrence Becker is a virtue theorist, not a deontologist. He proposes an Aristotelian defense of virtues in chapter two of his book "Reciprocity", which grounds the rest of his arguments. Hence his formulation of reciprocity is as a virtue to be cultivated.

5. Pg. 4, lines 107-113 - That's a block quote that needs to be set out as a block quote in the paper.
6. Pg. 4, line 116 - That citation is from Silva, Dawson, and Upshur, not Viens and colleagues.

7. Pg. 4, line 118 - Suggest changing the "=" to "i.e.," in the bracket.

8. Pg. 4, lines 138-140 - I suggest expanding on why the characteristics listed make for a challenging situation for asylum seekers. The reader can infer from this list, but I suggest the authors spend a few sentences better articulating these challenges.

9. Pg. 6, line 195 - This paragraph that summarizes the experience with TB screening with immigrants to the UK then switches to talking about asylum seekers. I would make clear what aspects of the experience described in this paragraph applies to all immigrants, and what applies to asylum seekers only. This can be done with a few words changes in these sentences.

Again, these are all minor comments that I hope will improve the clarity of an already stellar paper.

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

Unable to assess

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**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
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