Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors Predisposing to Shared Governance: A Qualitative Study

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Reviewer: Jonathan Drennan

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Factors Predisposing to Shared Governance: A Qualitative Study

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript; my comments are below:

1. There are a number of spelling errors in the document, please ensure that it is proof read.

2. Page 3: the following sentence requires revision: "This is the case while nursing schools and most academic organizations act in a hierarchical system of decision-making". The sentence does not appear to link to the sentence before this sentence. Do you mean to say that this is the case in schools of nursing?

3. Page 4: The following sentence requires revision: "In this line, the nursing trainers are recommended to notice the necessity of implementing shared organizational governance by accepting innovations in the healthcare." When you refer to nursing trainers, do you mean nurse educators? I'm not sure of the link between "shared organizational governance" and "accepting innovations in the healthcare". Can this be explained?

4. Page 4: The following sentence needs to be changed: "the present researcher embarked on determining the antecedents of shared governance in nursing schools of three major medical universities of Tehran, capital of Iran"; To read: "this study explored the antecedents of shared governance in nursing schools of three major medical universities of Tehran, Iran."

5. Page 5: change "the gleaned data" to read "the narrative data".

6. Page 5: the authors state: "inclusion criteria were: inclination for voluntary participation and at least five years of work" it is not clear why this is an inclusion criteria? Can you explain what you mean by "voluntary participation"?

7. Page 5: More data on the sample is required; when you say "specialists" what do you mean?

8. Page 5: Change "deep semi-structured interviews" to read: "in-depth semi-structured interviews".
9. Page 5: What do you mean by the "interview was co-constructed"? This requires further explanation.

10. The selective quotations are useful; however, it is difficult to know who is speaking without adequate coding. Is it possible to note whether the quotation comes from a senior of medium level manager or faculty members.

11. For each theme or sub-theme, you only use on selected quote - can this be expanded upon to provide further depth to the quotations outlined?

12. Page 10: the authors write: "The participation principle has been introduced as a value for communities and organizations at the international level." Can you explain what you mean by this? The authors further state: "Also, people, especially the youth in Iran, have gained an increased awareness and inclination for intervention in their own affairs at the family and country level. Hence, the need for participation as one of the contemporary requirements in Iran is felt more than ever to pave the way for the acceptance of shared governance in higher education institutions." Can you back this statement up with a reference? Is there a policy at Governmental level in Iran that states this should occur?

13. I would like to see a greater explanation of how the categories and subcategories link together; that is, how do the overarching categories inform the subcategories.

Overall, this study explores an important area, that of shared governance in nursing schools. It appears that relatively rich data has been collected; however, only very few selective quotations have been presented and further in-depth exploration of these should be used to back up the categories presented. A number of themes are presented that require further explanation and I would like to have seen a greater discussion around the definitions of shared governance. The logical flow of the manuscript requires further work and the context in relation to the move to shared governance in Iran needs to be made clearer. There are a number of statements made that need to be explained as they don't appear to fit in with the overall flow of the manuscript - I have highlighted these in my comments above.

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?
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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