Reviewer’s report

Title: Nursing and midwifery research activity in Arab countries from 1950 to 2017

Version: 1 Date: 16 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Aamir Raoof Memon

Reviewer's report:

I would like to thank the authors for revising this manuscript. The revised version of the manuscript is well-written and it would serve as a good piece (if published). However, I have the following observations about the manuscript:

Line 57: "lagging in quantity and quality" should be followed by "compared to other countries" or it may be "compared to the developed countries" or "compared to the Western countries".

The methodology used for literature search in this study should be provided as a supplemental file.

Line 260: "In most Arab countries, academic promotion is based on the number and quality of publications". Is it true for the funding also? Authors did not discuss anything about research funding (26% from non-Arab countries according to this paper) and subsidy that authors get, from their institutions, for publishing their work. Funding is also an important reason increasing publications, authors should discuss this.

Line 275-285 Authors have a space for discussing "lack of funding", which might be one of the factors for a lower number of RCTs.

Line 302: "In bibliometric analysis" should be changed to "In bibliometric analyses,"

Since self-citations were not excluded, the readers of the manuscript should be cautioned about this limitation of the findings in the "limitations" section of the manuscript.

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

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