Reviewer's report

Title: Using the WHO-AIMS to inform development of mental health systems: The case study of Makueni County, Kenya

Version: 1 Date: 23 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

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 sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

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

N/A - there are no statistics in this study

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

Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?
Yes - current version is technically sound

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: The authors have largely addressed my concerns in the manuscript in the following ways: (1) they have provided a detailed letter of revisions and have clearly indicated their changes within the manuscript; (2) The methods section is improved in that it discusses more specifically the properties and sample questions of the WHO AIMS measure and they have indicated in the much improved limitations section the lack of psychometric properties for this measure. The authors also provided additional information on the sample and how they accessed people in the study. They also provided an explanation for how data was interpreted vis a vis the WHO AIMS measure; (3) they improved their discussion section so that it better highlights and expands upon the areas and steps needed for improvement identified by the authors; and (4) the title has been adequately shortened and refined.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

The only revisions I would recommend is to provide a number of medical records that were reviewed. I do not recall this being provided and to also provide some demographics of the interview sample. While the authors identify the position of the interviewee's and indicated that their role was to confirm or deny what they found in the records, it would be helpful to have an idea of the age, gender, years of experience and professional background of the interviewees (if it is available). The manuscript also needs some revisions and editing in regard to English grammar and syntax.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

None at this time.

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.

Yes

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.

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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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