Reviewer’s report

Title: Using flawed, uncertain, proximate and sparse (FUPS) data in the context of complexity: learning from the case of child mental health

Version: 2 Date: 11 Apr 2018

Reviewer: Kelly Kelleher

Reviewer's report:

The authors have been very responsive and markedly improved this manuscript except for one point. They dispute the point about the effectiveness of mental health prevention activities for children and adolescents, arguing that the services are not effective and citing a single trial of CBT in schools. This reviewer can understand that local implementation of prevention in the school system that the authors are familiar with may give them this impression, but systematic reviews far beyond the single study cited by the authors conducted by the York Centre in NZ, NICE, the National Academy of Medicine in the US and WHO all conclude that prevention interventions for children are effective with moderate effect sizes across diverse populations.

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