Reviewer’s report

Title: An analysis of the global pharmacy workforce capacity trends from 2006 to 2012

Version: 0 Date: 28 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Gustavo Portela

Reviewer’s report:

Initially, I would like to offer my congratulations to the author. The formulation of national human resources for health policies and strategies requires evidence-based planning to rationalize decisions. In this way, the manuscript at hand is relevant and important in current discussions on the pharmacy workforce capacity in many countries.

However, I have considerations about the content of the article and comments on the methodological processes.

I suggest that the author explain and explore the sentences bellow better:

"Missing time-point data for some countries (data gaps) were subject, where possible, to literature and www data searching to capture possible missing data. Country level capacity data were plotted against time to identify trends coupled with comparative analysis of the trends." (Repeated throughout the text)

The author should report the impact of this data to the final results and conclusions of the survey. In the same direction the author should better detail the methodological implications of working with countries that have information for only two years and at the same time with countries with information for three years.

I would suggest too, that the authors make a revision of the manuscript trying to identify and adjust excessively general statements and without scientific proof, as the examples below (That is, to deepen the bibliographic reviews on the subjects):

"Some decreases observed in density of pharmacists may be a result of net migration to other countries or other factors such as changes in national health policy."

"Changes may also reflect differences in role as pharmacists may be contributing to a nation's healthcare in nonpatient facing roles in the pharmaceutical industry and pharmaceutical manufacturing units."

Finally, I indicate that the author details the limitation of the study to work with trends, but only to have information until 2012. There is a great devastation until the current year (2017).
Sincerely,

Portela, GZ.

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An article of importance in its field

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

Acceptable

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