Reviewer's report

Title: Understanding nurses' dual practice: a scoping review of what we know and what we still need to ask on nurses holding multiple jobs

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Reviewer: Tim Martineau

Reviewer's report:

The authors have identified an important gap in the literature, so this study is much needed. The multi-language approach was novel. The comments provided below are mainly to improve clarity.

Abstract

P2L130-1 Consider "several ways exist for nurses to engage …"

P2L1 42-5 If "unclear impact" really means negative impact, then say so.

P2L138-40 consider re-wording. The agenda does not mitigate pervasive effects.

Background

P3L1 15 change to "Is, in comparison, less explored .."

P3L126-7 change to " As the nursing workforce is predominately female, policy options to address nurses' participation in the public and private labour market will need to take gender into account"

Methods

P3L1 46-7 rephrase e.g "the extent and key themes within the literature .."

P3L157 "through PubMed"
"fewer working hours .."

meaning unclear

clarify whose perceptions are being investigated - managers, health workers, patients, etc

Results

- missing information

"full time job"

the characteristics of 'part-time' and 'flexible' should be treated differently. The latter may link to 'casualisation', but the former does not.

Sentence unclear: why is the private sector a key driver and what 'phenomenon' is being referred to?

"in this respect, …"

A strong point of this study was the multi-language approach, and yet it is unclear if any studies in languages other than English were found. This is worthy of comment either in this section or the Discussion section.

Discussion and conclusions

"Consistent with what is observed for other professions …"

Is there any difference regarding the importance of economic considerations between higher and lower income countries? If there is evidence, this is worthy of comment. If not, this may be an important area for research.
P10 ll12-24 some comment about what could be done in the absence of usable quantitative data sets would be useful here.

More discussion about what research is needed to mitigate the impact of dual practice is needed to address objective number 3.

References
The correct format for this journal should be used for references - both in text and for the reference list.

Supplementary material
Appendix 1 - details of experts missing
Appendix 2: some authors missing

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