Reviewer’s report

Title: The children's nursing workforce in Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, South Africa and Zambia: generating an initial indication of the extent of the workforce and training activity

Version: 0 Date: 14 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Conrad Musinguzi

Reviewer's report:

Dear Author

I thank you for the great work but in order to make this paper better here are my suggestions;

1. Please limit the whole study to South Africa since not much information was got from other countries for a number of limitations that you may have not reported. It would be a misrepresentation of the situation in other countries which am sure have this information if the method to collect it was thorough.

2. When you look at the methodology, how the data was collected isnt clear. it looks like you asked your respondents to go through their records and provide you with statistics of the workforce capacity in their countries. This is classical document review of secondary data. Most of this countries have Health Monitoring Information Systems (HMIS) which have this data and the just mere asking respondents to provide summary statistics maybe very misleading and maynt be accurate.

3. To make this a paper interesting, i would like to see thorough audit of the workforce situation (quantitative ) and why is appears this way (qualitative) and these should be clearly linked (as you say convergent).

I would have loved to whether the numbers commensurate to the policy requirements.
I would have loved to see the distribution of these numbers just in South Africa alone.

In conclusion, if this study was limited to South Africa, you would have more accurate information which more in-depth analysis.
**Level of interest**
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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