Reviewer's report

Title: Job satisfaction of the primary healthcare providers with expanded roles in the context of health service integration in rural China: a cross-sectional mixed methods study

Version: 0 Date: 09 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Christophe Lemiere

Reviewer's report:

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

Thanks again for the opportunity to review this paper.

I have at least two major issues with this paper.

First, although most of the sentences are roughly understandable, there is still a need for serious editing by a native English-speaker. For instance, the term "works" is usually ambiguous. There are also many typos (e.g. the funniest one being the "medicine zero-makeup policy").

Secondly, I have deep concerns about the sampling process. It is very briefly explained (in 4 lines: 113-117). It does not seem to have been done randomly, but rather through "purposive sampling", which - if confirmed - would invalidate all the statistical analyses.

I have also some concerns about the design of this study:

- the concept of work autonomy" is understood in a quite simplistic manner (i.e. are you satisfied with work autonomy) and highly prone to endogeneity (i.e. job satisfaction is explained by… satisfaction about work autonomy !); it would have been better to break down this aspect in several questions and avoid the use of satisfaction terms;

- the fact that some health workers are hired on a temporary basis may be a significant factor for their job satisfaction; I am surprised this is not taken into account;

- it is very likely that several variables are colinear (for instance, hours worked per week and monthly income); the authors should address this concern.
Finally, I remain very skeptical of the publishing value of this paper (even if the above-mentioned comments were addressed). The proposed methodology is really basic and may be flawed. The overall findings are that health workers are now less satisfied because of the added workload they face. We could have guess that without such a study.

Best regards

Christophe Lemiere

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An article of limited interest

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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