Author’s response to reviews

Reviewer comments: Round 2

Reviewer #1: Thank you for your responses!

Here are my last questions and suggestions

LINE 58: Is it the last WHO report which emphasizes the need to translate knowledge into action? If relevant, a more recent report could be cited here.

- Response: Yes, the 2004 WHO report is cited as well as the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research and the Bamako call. We reference these citations, while a little dated, because they were at the start of this multi-stakeholder institutional global call for bridging research and practice.


LINE 70-71: You probably already have these references, but since they identify many knowledge-to-action frameworks, I thought they can be relevant here as references.


• Response: Thank you for these suggested references. After reviewing them, we have found them to be relevant and included them to strengthen our background section on other frameworks (line 66) and our discussion section on the need for research on evaluating RU (line 420).

LINE 78-80: Is it a critic that KB strategies use varied or multiple models? I propose to be more explicit about your idea here along with this reference.

• Response: We have clarified this sentence to not necessarily be a critique of varied or multiple models that exist for knowledge brokering but that evidence of their approaches were limited based on this scoping review.

LINE 116: How the El-Jadarli framework was limited for your programmatic needs?

• Response: We have clarified this line to explain the limitation of the framework with regards to program implementation compared with its strong emphasis on policy implementation.

LINE 134: FB is not in the abbreviation list

• Response: We have added this to the list.

LINE 163 to 174: You mention on LINE 329-339 the need for greater coordination between country stakeholders and international partners. I propose to add reflection specifically on donors' influence on program and policy development at the country level. With your experience, what is their influence on decision-making (or institutionalization phase) in LMIC context?

• Response: Thank you for the question. In our experience, the coordination is central because when present, it can support institutionalization, as was the case in Zambia. We have added language to this effect (lines 337-341). On the other hand, when there is poor coordination or even contradiction among donors and with local stakeholders, it is nearly impossible to achieve institutionalization.