Reviewer’s report

Title: Taking stock of 10 years of published research on the ASHA program: examining India’s national community health worker program from a health systems perspective

Version: 0 Date: 28 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Abimbola Olaniran

Reviewer’s report:

A highly informative "stock-taking" of the ASHA programme. Detailed and descriptive background information is provided which is particularly useful for those wishing to become familiar with the ASHA programme. However, the manuscript would benefit from reviewing and revising the following:

METHOD

1. The authors should provide justifications for limiting the number of databases to three. Considering that some articles on ASHA are grey literature, what measures did the authors put in place to include grey literature.

2. The authors stated that "One author reviewed all titles and abstracts." To this end, the readers would benefit from knowing how the authors avoided reviewer's selection bias.

3. The readers would benefit from a detailed description of the inductive CHW health systems interface framework and how it was applied to this review.

RESULT & DISCUSSION

1. The authors should consider comparing findings from the first and second half of the concluded decade in a way that shows a trend (or lack of it). For example, trends in health condition focus and evaluation outcomes. This trend may present a useful roadmap for guiding stakeholders on the likely priority areas for the second decade of ASHA programme.

2. Further, the manuscript would benefit from situating the findings within the broader literature on CHWs (transcending India) to describe the implication of these findings for the second decade of ASHA programme.

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:

Acceptable

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