Reviewer’s report

Title: Identifying values in the health policy decision-making processes about health-system financing in Latin America: A critical interpretive synthesis

Version: 0 Date: 25 Mar 2020

Reviewer: Pavel Ovseiko

Reviewer's report:

This is a novel study synthesising evidence on values in Latin American health systems. To the best of my knowledge it is the first study of this kind focusing on Latin America. Moreover, very appropriately, the search strategy included studies published not only in English, but also in Spanish and Portuguese - the major official languages in Latin America. The study is rigorously conducted using the relevant systematic review methods, comprehensively reported using the PRESS and PRISMA checklists, and innovatively synthesised using the critical interpretive synthesis methodology. Before publication, the authors may wish to address the following points:

TITLE: Please consider adding the study design to the title, eg "A systematic review and critical interpretive synthesis"

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LITERATURE: as per the journal's style, the three bullet points are more appropriate in the Discussion or Conclusion.

METHODS: For the reader not familiar with the critical interpretive synthesis methodology, please consider explaining it in more detail.

Please explain whether publication dates were among the inclusion criteria.

DISCUSSION: Although in the introduction the authors mention a number of important political and economic changes over the last 30 years, there is no discussion on whether values changed over time. The authors may wish to discuss whether their findings changed over the study period.

Although the authors mention the use of the critical interpretive synthesis methodology for theory building, it is not apparent from the Discussion how the proposed framework contributes to theory. The authors may wish to elaborate on their findings in the context of theory building.
**Level of interest**  
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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