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: 05 Apr 2020

Reviewer: Arja R. Aro

Reviewer's report:

This is a very valuable synthesis in the field. The approach used, the material gathered and analyzed, the framework developed, all follow a logic pathway. The conceptual contribution is no doubt very good. Further, the manuscript has been very well written and e.g. Figure 4 is very informative.

In spite of all the above, one cannot avoid thinking if all these phenomena called values, should/could really be called values. Written this way, the manuscript 're-creates' philosophy and related disciplines looking at values in a more sophisticated way and using different levels of values, not only different categories. Now values, principles etc are not clearly separated.

However, the manuscript make a lot of sense, it harmonizes the policy making field and might provide tools which can enhance the practical work in the field.

One further note: Would the same categories etc appear also in other parts of the world than Latin America? The manuscript mentions shortly how this work is important in Latin America due to frequent and drastic political changes. These changes have also happened elsewhere.

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