Reviewer's report

Title: Using rapid environmental scan methodology to map country-level global health research expertise in Canada

Version: 0 Date: 17 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Ermel Johnson

Reviewer's report:

Introduction/background: The introduction did not review the state of knowledge on Global Health expertise. How is the issue addressed? What are the actions taken in this direction and what gaps need to be filled? Then, take stock of the specific case of Canada. The research question is not clearly mentioned in the introduction.

Methods: A work flow graph would be useful to allow the reader to see each step of the document search.

What do you think of non-degree courses that still help to strengthen the capacities of people already in professional activities? Webinars and other training sessions during global health conferences are also important to track to get a complete overview of global health expertise.


Why not use the words from the categorization of activities and outputs in the literature search. Explain the choice to analyze only the first 100 results of the literature search.

The period covered by the study is not clearly specified.

Discussion: The discussion could be improved by looking in the literature for experiences from other countries such as high income or middle income. This will allow us to know where Canada is located and especially if there is efficiency in the outputs.

Overall comments: The article gives the feeling of the development of a new method for assessing expertise in Global Health, but the approach used is not adapted to the development of
a new framework. Sensitivity and specificity should be statistically tested. The analysis and discussion are too focused on Canada, although the subject is global health. Comparison with other experiences in other contexts would provide more value added and be of interest to non-Canadian readers.

Strengths:

Major revision:

1. Specify the objective at the outset; whether it is the development of a Framework or the analysis of Global Health expertise in Canada.
2. Possibly change the analytical framework
3. Include other types of activities such as webinars, training sessions, non-degree training in the analysis if possible

Minor revision:

1. Review the citation of references. Be sure to remove the [internet] and internet link. The use of DOI is more appropriate.

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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