Reviewer’s report

Title: A systematic review of interventions to increase awareness of mental health and well-being in athletes, coaches and officials.

Version: 0 Date: 29 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Simon Rice

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have provided a timely and thorough review of the literature. Athlete mental health is an area that is gaining increasing research and clinical attention. This paper makes a new contribution via synthesising the exiting literature relative to sport-specific awareness campaigns for athletes, coaches and officials. All three of these population groups are important to research. The paper is clearly written and enjoyable to read. A good review of the literature is provided in the introduction, and the methodology is well described and rigorous. The recommendation regarding the importance of integration of theory is a point well made.

Overall the reporting of the results in the tables seemed sufficient, however the narrative section of the results section seemed quite brief. A substantial portion of the results section rightly focused on describing the quality / risk of bias aspect of the study, however a richer discussion of the 10 included studies would be useful. In effect, the descriptive narrative of the results was limited to a single paragraph (Pg 13; Lines 293-308). The authors may consider expanding this section, and it may assist to use some subheadings to guide the reader, and they may also want to comment on the clinical meaningfulness of some of the results reported in included studies (this also relates back to the discussion section; Pg 16, Line 348).

I also offer the following suggestions:

Pg 4 - there is discussion that gender is a factor in help seeking, but there is increasing evidence that gender may alter symptom presentation of common mental health disorders; given the high numbers of men involved in elite sport (and associated role expectations related to masculinity) reference to this literature may be warranted, some interesting examples can be found at:

DOI: 10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2013.1985
DOI: 10.1016/j.cpr.2016.09.002
DOI: 10.1097/HRP.0000000000000128

Pg 5 - The reference to elite athlete Brief Counselling Support programs would benefit from a citation.

Pg 12 - Should the box in the PRISMA diagram for "records excluded" read 1029?
Pg 13 - Is it correct that of the 1,994 participants gender was only identified for 302 males and 386 females? I'm not sure the comment in the discussion (Pg 18, line 389) that the sample mainly consisted of females is accurate given the number of gender unknown cases.

Pg 13 - Line 300, sentence seems incomplete.

Pg 14 - Line 313; I think some words are missing - i.e., should 'risk of bias' be in this sentence?

Pg 18 - perhaps omit the term 'evidence based' prior to case study, as it is not commonly seen.

Pg 18 - Line 401/402; poor expression and needs rewording.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field that should be highlighted to relevant networks

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

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interest
I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal