Reviewer’s report

Title: The effects of community pharmacy public health interventions on population health and health inequalities: umbrella review protocol

Version: 0 Date: 10 May 2017

Reviewer: Ibitola Asaolu

Reviewer's report:

This protocol provides background information on the role of community pharmacies in delivering various forms of public health interventions. The goal of the protocol was to conduct an umbrella review (of all systematic reviews) to address the effects of community pharmacies public health interventions on health and health inequalities.

The authors described the study's inclusion criteria, database selection, data extraction and manipulation process, and synthesis of results under this proposed umbrella review.

I welcome the authors to consider addressing the following in their protocol:

1. Search terms: Authors should consider including proposed search (MESH) terms along with their list of databases.

2. Date range of studies to be included in umbrella review: Please specify the date range of studies to be considered in this review. If the review will use all systematic reviews relevant to community pharmacy public health interventions, then authors could state that they will consider all reviews from inception to date.

3. Studies published in different languages: Authors should consider addressing how they would appraise studies that are published in languages not spoken by any of the authors.

4. Qualitative systematic reviews: Do authors anticipate any systematic review that involves qualitative research? If they do, how might they appraise such study?

5. Screening, Data, Extraction, and Quality appraisal: I encourage authors to assess the type of health professionals used in the intervention. The type of professional (e.g. licensed pharmacist vs. pharmacy technician) could have an impact on the outcome of a public health intervention.
6. Presenting results: How will the authors present results from their systematic reviews? Do they plan on conducting a statistical test of heterogeneity, calculating a global effect estimate, or creating a Forest Plot?

7. How will this umbrella review address the risk for bias?

8. Screening, Data, Extraction, and Quality appraisal: "Data will be extracted by one reviewer and checked by a second (FHB and NW and MB), using standard data extraction forms based on previous reviews [8, 11]". Please revise this sentence to show the author who will extract (FHB?) and check the data (NW and/or MB?). Right now, there are three authors listed instead of two.

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:

Acceptable

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