Reviewer's report

Title: The impact of musculoskeletal injuries sustained in road traffic crashes on work-related outcomes: protocol for a systematic review.

Version: 0 Date: 12 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Mona Pathak

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In this protocol "The impact of musculoskeletal injuries sustained in road traffic crashes on work-related outcomes: protocol for a systematic review", authors are keen to apprise the available evidence on five outcomes namely (1) return to work, (2) sick leave, (3) work ability (4) work capacity and (5) health related work productivity loss. There are some clarifications need to be addressed.

1. Why author have included only musculoskeletal injuries, other type of injuries also affect work related outcomes.
2. Line 155: Authors written "Randomized controlled trials will be excluded". Virtually, there cannot be a randomized controlled trial because injuries cannot be randomized.
3. Line 181: Authors need to develop a concrete search strategy because searching for observational studies require more time and resources because of lack of specific search filters. Further, most of the observational studies may not include the word "observational study" in their title or abstract. Accordingly, development of search strategy is most crucial part of systematic review of observational studies.
4. Line 231& 232: Authors wrote to compare two groups (standard mean differences and 95% confidence intervals for continuous outcomes, and risk ratios for discrete frequency outcomes), it is unclear that which two groups will be compared. Further, risk ratio in context of meta-analysis generally used for binary outcomes.
5. The rationale and discussion focused to Australia specific population. Are authors going to include observational studies conducted only on Australian population?

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

Quality of written English
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Needs some language corrections before being published
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