Reviewer’s report

Title: A systematic review protocol examining workplace interventions that aim to improve employee health and wellbeing in male-dominated industries

Version: 0 Date: 05 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Sophie Wardle

Reviewer's report:

Overall, this is a nice piece of work that is methodologically sound. My comments are more centred around the rationale for the work, and its future impact. The decision to focus on male-dominated industries is not clear enough for me currently.

General comments:

The introduction doesn't currently set up your objectives - are you looking at the industries you've highlighted because they are male-dominant or because those industries have a high prevalence of poor health? This point is really critical and the following 3 points arise from this uncertainty.

How much is the higher incidence of poor health in male dominated industries due to the nature of the industry rather than the fact that it is sex-dominant? All of those industries you list have health risks that are inherent in the nature of the industry.

Why are you looking at male-dominated industries rather than sex-dominated industries?

I would recommend differentiating between the health effects on the opposite sex of working in a sex-dominated workplace vs a sex-dominated industry. My feeling is you could be missing out on valuable data from organisations / workplaces that are sex-dominant but that aren't necessarily within a sex-dominant industry. Equally, you could get a study from a male-dominated industry in which the workplace isn't male-dominated.

How will you ensure you capture all relevant industries / workplaces?

What is the long term impact of the work? Is your aim to be able to recommend an intervention / interventions that improve health in male-dominated industries? Would you expect to see that different strategies / interventions are employed in male-dominated industries compared to other industries?

Specific comments:

Line 23-25: Consider altering the phrasing - it's not about the workforce providing straight forward access to lots of people, rather that lots of people are employed / have a workplace and that it is an employee responsibility to provide appropriate conditions for its workers.

Some grammatical changes need to occur - I won't mention them all but examples include 1) commonest to most common, line 56; 2) causes rather than cause, line 58; 3) remove 'who', line 73.
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