Reviewer’s report

Title: Performance management methods and practices among Nurses in Primary Health Care Settings: A systematic scoping review protocol

Version: 0 Date: 01 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Kennedy Nkhoma

Reviewer's report:

Performance management methods and practices amongst nurses in primary health care settings: a systematic scoping review protocol

Thank you for the opportunity to review this work.
My comments are as follows:

Abstract

Page 2
Include period of search in the data bases selected and justify
Line 33: we will also involve is not an appropriate sentence
Page 3
Line 2: we anticipate finding studies…..I don't think this is a better way to discuss, rather say how will you make use of the evidence having gathered it?
Line 4: I don't think we need to discuss the dissemination plan in the discussion section

Background

Page 4
You give a background of chronic conditions, I wonder how does this relate to the title, aims and objectives of the review?
Moreover in the abstract, you don't mention chronic conditions anywhere
It's not clear if this is a review of chronic conditions, performance management methods, nurses delivery of quality care in primary care?

Between line 29 and 31, I think we need a link here to justify why the review is important. You start well with the background and you go straight to the aim of the review.
You do make arguments but you don't support them with references for instance:
Between line 48-56 on page 4

Between line 1-9 on page 5
Furthermore you say these authors, which are these authors you are talking about?

On page 4 you state the aim of the review and objectives come later after a lengthy discussion about PDMS and HRM on page 5. Aims and objectives need to be together
Methods

No need of the research question, aim and objectives here because it has already been covered in the background

Page 8 line 27: don't say was applied
Table 2: The search strategy does not include other key nursing concepts
Tables need to be reordered, table two comes first, then table one comes second?
On table 1: exclusion criteria… the first sentence should read as 'for studies to be excluded' and not included as it is currently written.
What about language as an inclusion or exclusion criteria
What about type of studies to be included or excluded. I would refer you to PICO or PICo to guide you to come up with a proper inclusion and exclusion criteria.
Managing conditions in primary setting looks broad, can you be specific?
Page 7 line 40 … the sentence starting with 'to achieve … needs to be rewritten
Page 9: All references including titles are supposed to be exported to end-note and selecting of studies starts here. Again the discussion on endnote should come earlier alongside screening for title, abstract and duplicates.
Page 9: Be specific who is the 1st 2nd and 3rd reviewer.
Page 9: Line 13 where you discuss the librarian should come earlier during the stage of searching for studies. You need the librarian at the earliest stage to help with the conduct of searches
Page 11: Stage 5 How will you analyse quantitative data and data from RCT's you only discuss qualitative data?
How will you combine results from quantitative and qualitative studies?
How will you combine data from published and unpublished studies/grey literature?
Can you give details how you will search for grey literature?

Discussion

page 12
Line 39-47 not necessary here

References

Number 11 needs attention:
Ng L, Elliot JH: and Abstract screening
Something is missing between the last author and the title.
**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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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No