Reviewer’s report

Title: Challenges and Opportunities towards the road of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Nepal: a systematic review

Version: 0 Date: 06 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Fabrice Jotterand

Reviewer's report:

Questions related to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) are important and deserve close attention as access to adequate and affordable health services is fundamental to thriving individuals/communities/societies. The authors of this study propose to examine the challenges associated with the implementation of a universal coverage in Nepal through a literature review. The article provide a good background about what UHC entails, a brief (too brief) overview of countries around the world with universal coverage followed by an analysis of the situation of Nepal. The Background section as such is helpful although it could go deeper in its analysis.

The Methodology section however should be expanded for sure. For instance, more should be said about the inclusion and exclusion criteria. What tools were used for analysis and what keywords were used. I am not sure Pub Med and Google Scholar are sufficient instruments for a literature review of this type. What is striking is the number of articles identified (n=1912) vs. the number of articles included (n=22). The authors should describe how articles were excluded. Methodologically the paper needs to be strengthened - maybe seeking expertise in this type of review might help.

The Results section should integrate more carefully the four tables which subsequently will provide the basis for a more robust Discussion section.

In the Discussion section the authors should expand their analysis on Nepal. Why discuss other countries whereas the focus of the paper is Nepal?

Also, the paper needs careful editing (syntax, etc.).

My recommendation would be to ask the authors to revise extensively the paper and resubmit.

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