Reviewer’s report

Title: Nothing about me without me: Why an EU health literacy strategy embracing the role of citizens and patients is needed

Version: 0 Date: 05 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Benoit Petre

Reviewer's report:

The paper provides a critical look at the development of health literacy as a major public health issue today. The article sounds interesting and created important expectations in my own. However, there are several issues that need to be addressed before publishing this editorial and in order to enhance its coherence and main messages.

MAJOR COMMENTS

Please situate the need for a strategic view on HL in light of previous work that has made this attempt. In other words, why is it unsatisfactory to refer to some previous works such as "the policy document issued by the European Regional Office of WHO(1)" and the one from the "American Medical Association(2)"


I would prefer the clarification of such a position statement in place of health trends that are already well known in the scientific community.

You call for a strong mobilisation of patients and citizen for the development of the strategic view. Again, are they up to know excluded from such debate? Please argue deeper this position.

Title focus on a specific element of the paper: participation of patient/citizen in the definition of the strategic view. Is it the central message of the paper If yes, it will be more developed.

Please make the paper more coherent between "background", "health literacy and future avenues" section and conclusion.

MINOR COMMENTS

please clarify the following sentence of the abstract: "However, the fundamental notion of health literacy at the European level is not fully exploited".
In line 53, we define HL as a skill. I prefer "a set of skills"

Lines 52-59: should be moved to the background section

**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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