Reviewer’s report

Title: The role of geographic bias in knowledge diffusion: a systematic review and narrative synthesis

Version: 1 Date: 18 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Hector Pardo

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed most of the proposed comments and suggestions. As a result, the manuscript has improved significantly.

The methodological shortcomings, specifically the limited sources that were searched and the individual assessment of studies at the abstract level remain, but the authors have appropriately accounted for these issues in the limitations section.

There is one statement that needs to be considered, in the discussion: "Improving visibility of LIC research through scientific collaboration is now easier than ever before through open-access publication and research collaboration". This statement needs to be attenuated: paying for open access may be prohibitive for researchers in low and middle-income countries, thus creating yet another barrier to publication.

Regarding style, "capitol" of Ethiopia needs to be corrected. In Figure 1, "Duplicate; Language" should also be corrected (at least the caps and the semi-colon). Lastly, there are still paragraphs that are too long to read in the Discussion (the "Distinguishing institutional affiliation from Country of Origin" and the "Effect of journal attribution" paragraphs).

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