Qeios

Peer Review

Review of: "Integrated Determinants of Persistent Wild Poliovirus Transmission in Pakistan and Afghanistan: The Roles of Cross-Border Mobility, Hard-to-Reach Populations, and Micro-Transmission Hotspots, 2010-2025"

Eric Osamudiamwen Aigbogun[1,2]

1. Public Health, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Nigeria; 2. Knowledge Management and Learning, Solina Group (Nigeria), Abuja, Nigeria

Thank you for the opportunity to review this piece. While the paper is of significant importance to the global community, I think there are omissions of concern that need to be addressed.

METHODS

1. The study failed to mention what approach was used to ensure methodological rigour and clarity in scoping reviews (for example, Joanna Briggs Institute's (JBI) guidelines for conducting scoping reviews). The study only mentioned the use of the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA-SCR) approach, which more or less helps with.
2. The search strategy used for evidence gathering was based on which framework? PCC or PICO or which?
3. Was this review methodology registered? If it was, the authors need to quote the repository. For example, Open Science Framework (OSF) or PROSPERO.
4. Listing the inclusion and exclusion criteria makes the work seem like a presentation. It can be structured into a sentence as a paragraph.

RESULTS

doi.org/10.32388/4JVCV7

1. The study failed to mention the search distribution results of the documents included. For example, original papers, government documents, white papers (by aid agencies or governing bodies), technical reports (by think tanks), or policy documents.
2. The study did not capture the findings of the articles in a tabular format, based on the different thematic areas of focus. This way, the readers can link the results narrative to the actual papers.

DISCUSSION

1. The study did not highlight the evidence gaps in the researched papers that could not be addressed, which would have been important for this review. For example, polio spread has been associated with seasonality, migration patterns, and WASH, but this was highlighted in the articles.
2. The study missed out on the opportunity to describe the implications for the future, particularly for research, intervention investment, and policy. This should come as a heading after the discussion section.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.