Review of: "Kalya Research: Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Virtual Research Assistant from Biomedical Literature"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

KR's relevance as a research assistant tool has been brought to the fore in this paper. I therefore consider this an important paper, addressing a relevant issue. The authors provided a clearly written abstract and introduction, a clear structure for the paper, and identified the scope and objectives of their research. The quality of the paper would be enhanced by a few grammatical edits.

The paper describes CAM as a non-pharmacological intervention. However, I struggled with the nomenclature "complementary and alternative medicine" (CAM) as it gives the nuance of a second-rate medical intervention. Others have referred to non-pharmacological intervention as traditional medicine, indigenous medicine, or folk medicine. It stands as a medical intervention in its own right, and the concept of representing it as a "complement" or an "alternative" sends mixed messages. I know this is not the focus of the paper, but injecting some form of clarity in this area would be useful.

In terms of the method and application of KR, have you considered the IP implications of KR searching through databases for content as it enriches its own database? I noticed that under section 4, you mention that "The backend manages data recovery via APIs and integration into data warehouses." Is KR focused on open access literature only, or is it merely looking through the titles/abstracts, or is it going into the content of each paper to extract, copy, and save content? Does KR copy any portion of the work it searches? Has any form of authorization, consent, or agreement been entered into between KR and the publishing entities?