

Review of: "Public Health Care Leadership Competencies Through the Lens of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Review of What Matters in Managing Global Health Crisis"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The subject is an interesting one. However, I think more effort is needed before this work merits publication. I hope some of the following suggestions can help.

Summary of the abstract is “a crisis needs leadership” and “leadership needs the following 6 characteristics” ... nothing of this is really new. Thus, I would not support publication of this manuscript, as it is now, in a regular journal. Instead, I would like the authors to elaborate more, to use references to support all statements, and to produce new information or insights.

References: References are needed, for instance, after line 3 of the introduction and in many other parts. Please support all statements with references or with data. References should be shortened or numbered as seen in other articles in Qeios. The long lists of authors make the current version difficult to read and follow.

Section 2.1 “Effective crisis leadership frameworks” lists three of those, giving their description. However, it is not clear how this contributes to the article, and it is strange finding these frameworks before the literature review section. Further, a Google search finds 54 references on crisis leadership frameworks... how did you end up with these three? This needs more explanation.

Methods: You state a number of search terms and identify 31 studies for final inclusion in this review. However, again, a rapid Google Scholar search for “health care leadership” gets >8000 hits. It is not clear how you ended up with those 31. Please consider using the PRISMA framework for your review.

Results and conclusions sections contain a lot of nice words/sentences, but do not make clear points.

Minor:

Abstract: How did COVID-19 affect environmental progress. One could argue the opposite, considering the reduction in flights, for instance.

Intro line 4: countries and regions

Intro page 2. The statement “healthcare leaders stepped up, innovated, and worked (...) in unprecedented ways” needs

more context. This was not always the case, not everywhere.

Page 3 “containing the COVID-19 cases, deaths, and vaccination rates”... you probably mean improving vaccination rates?