

Review of: "Impact of Men's Labour Migration on Non-migrating Spouses' Health: A Systematic Review"

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The systematic review is done by the book, resorting to common norms for qualitative and quantitative research review. The comments on the articles are quite detailed, relevant, and nuanced.

I have some reservation about the "Policy/programme recommendations" section. Given the relatively few studies found on the topic (the authors ended up with 33 papers only), and the lack of sound statistical evidence worldwide (the quantitative papers would not be representative enough to conduct a meta-analysis, not even considering publication bias), I believe the recommendations are not based on sufficient evidence (in scope and in space) to be really useful. The section on Future Research is definitely more interesting, pointing at the relevant gaps in the literature.

One minor comment about the introduction: In relative terms, the extent of lifetime international migration has been fairly stable since the 2nd world war within current borders. Also the 740 million internal lifetime migrants are inter-regional migrants, not accounting for intra-regional (shorter distance) lifetime migrations. For the period 2005-2010, internal migrations were about 500 millions (7,5% of the world population) against 8,3 millions (0,12%) for international migrations (see Bell et al. 2015, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1728-4457.2015.00025.x>)