**Manuscript evaluation guidelines**Title:

Conflict of interest in systematic reviews and its implications on public health policy  
  
  
1. Importance of the paper  
  
           Does it address issues relevant to the fields of bioethics and medical ethics in the developing countries? – Yes, it does  
  
2. Is it topical?  
  
           Is the issue discussed from another country's/culture perspective? – Yes

           Will it influence practice or policy? - yes  
  
           Is it too specialized for the journal? - no  
  
3. Originality  
  
           Is the information /comment new? – it is a perspective paper. It is highly relevant.

Is there any likelihood of plagiarism? – I do not think so  
  
  
4. Conclusions  
           Is the interpretation warranted, unwarranted, well developed? – Yes, the interpretation is warranted. I have made suggestions with regard to the policy implications section.

           Does the article contain loose generalisations? – No. But it could be structured better so that the discussion would evolve better and lead to the recommendations more organically.  
           Are there any important omissions? - No  
  
5. Other comments – the paper needs slight reworking

6. Recommendation  
  
 Accept as is  
  
 Accept with modifications (specify) – accept with slight modifications  
  
 - style – minor changes

- substance – I am okay with the substance. My problem is with the narrative. It appears forced in certain places and disorganized on the whole. Needs a bit of structuring.

7. Separate comments for the author - None

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\***Please let us know whether you would like your name to be published as a reviewer of the manuscript. This is optional. – I am okay with that.**