Reviewer’s report

Title: "Do I really want to do this?" Longitudinal cohort study participants’ perspectives on postal survey design: a qualitative study

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Reviewer: Carina Thorstensson

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Reviewers comment on revised manuscript "Do I really want to do this?" Longitudinal cohort study participants’ perspectives on postal survey design: a qualitative study, by Harcombe et al.

I find my initial comments and questions well taken care of and answered by the authors.

I still, however, have three suggestions for discretionary revisions, that the authors could consider for further improvement:

1. In the background section (p5) the study by Nakash et al (2008) is mentioned as one of the few studies that actually have investigated, in a qualitative (nested) manner, participants’ perspectives of both participation and non-participation in a survey. I miss this reference in the results/discussion section, or for example when authors mention the lack of non-participants in the present study.

2. Consider moving the paragraph on p 23, starting "To ensure validity, ..." to methods section.

3. I agree with authors, saying that the very last paragraph in the Conclusion-section would be a good brief conclusion, and in my opinion a sufficient Conclusion. I strongly suggest, although as a Discretionary revision, that to improve readability of the manuscript authors should consider to move the Conclusion heading. My suggestion would be to use for example "General discussion" or "Implication".

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests