Author's response to reviews

**Title**: Physical activity in pregnancy: a qualitative study of the beliefs of overweight and obese pregnant women

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BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth resubmission cover letter

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Dear Emanuele

RE: 1373269728310189 - Physical activity in pregnancy: a qualitative study of the beliefs of overweight and obese pregnant women

Many thanks for the Reviewers comments. Here are our responses:

Reviewer 1: We do need to acknowledge that the number of interviews was small and from only one maternity unit, and that there may be limitations arising from this in terms of applicability to other settings and in particular to BME women. However this is a qualitative piece of work and therefore can’t be judged by the same criteria use to evaluate quantitative work.

Reviewer 2: We have expanded the methods section to explain the theoretical approach which frames the TPB (Subtle Realism) and the overall study design. We have also raised the issue of researcher reflexivity (Page 7). The steps taken to ensure rigour are given on page 7. We have referred to two relevant pieces of research by Chris Furber (Page 18).

Reviewer 3: We have added the topics which were included in the topic guide (Page 6), reflected on data saturation and confirming interviews (Page 7), and added in more details on the demographics of the study sample and the main study population from which the sample was derived (Page 6).

In relation to the copy editing issues we have proof read the paper and extensively redrafted to improve readability. Quotations remain verbatim.

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

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