Author's response to reviews

Title: Fear causes tears - Perineal injuries in home birth settings. A Swedish interview study.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript "Fear causes tears - Perineal injuries in home birth settings. A Swedish interview study". We have now considered the valuable comments from the reviewers and you'll find the following revisions included in the manuscript. We thank you for taking your time to help us improve this paper.

Reviewer 1.

1. Some explanation for the rationale for the use of qualitative methodology.

The reason for choosing an inductive approach in this study is now explained in p 6, line 13-14. No previous studies were found describing this phenomenon and we chose content analysis because we wanted to remain close to the participants’ own words.

2. A discussion of the philosophical theory underpinning the methodology within the methods section.

We use the inductive content analysis as described by Graneheim and Lundman 2004. Theories behind this method go back to various authors; in p 6, lines 14-17 we have now further explained our theoretical frame for this study.

3. References not all in italics: Ref 12, 14, 17, 18

This has now been corrected.

4. Ref 20 should be in capitals for Midwifery & Health

Thank you for noticing, this has now been corrected.

5. Ref 23 Vard I Norden -is this a journal?

Yes, I’m sorry for not having translated the title. This journal is not a peer-reviewed journal but the study has been presented at scientific conferences and is therefore included in the reference list.

Reviewer 2.

1. This is an excellent paper and the authors need to be congratulated

Thank you so much for your interest in our paper.