Reviewer's report

Title: "Struggling with daily life and enduring pain": A qualitative study of the experiences of pregnant women living with pelvic girdle pain

Version: 3 Date: 11 March 2013

Reviewer: Lena Nilsson-Wikmar

Reviewer's report:

It is an interesting and important paper and the manuscript has improved regarding many parts.

Major compulsory revisions

Background

In some parts the “Background” is deeper, but I am missing the new articles regarding for example catastrophizing and disability.

Procedure and informants

Inclusion criteria for the study were pregnant women with verified PGP......

At the time for data collection, all women with severe back pain ....... Did all the women had severe pain?

All women fulfilling the criteria for PGP were offered acupuncture treatment as a complement....... This must be more clearly explained. Were all women offered acupuncture? Consequences for the result?

Furthermore, at the time............various treatments, for example: analgesics, stability belts, physiotherapy and acupuncture. Physiotherapy involves a lot of different treatments and must be define exactly what has been done.

Still unclear how the notes from one informant is analyzed.

Results

A conceptual model is presented and that is good. My suggestion is to move the part “Figure 1 presents........future pregnancies” from page 12 to page 6 just before “Grasping the incomprehensible”.

Discussion

The conceptual model should be discussed. Now the model is just put into the manuscript without any discussions.

Minor Essential Revisions

Sometimes “Pelvic girdle pain” is used somtimes the abbreviation PGP. Consequence throughout the paper.
Sometimes “Participant” is used sometimes “Informant” and sometimes “Women”. Consequence throughout the paper.

Sometimes the quotations are written separately and sometimes not. Consequence throughout the paper.

On page 15 the sentence “Further, the association of poorer sleep and back pain in pregnant women is described”. This is already described in the text above. The reference (5) must be moved to ......than women without back pain in late pregnancy (5).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.