Author's response to reviews

Title: Perceptions of postnatal care: factors influencing primiparous mothers perceptions of postnatal communication and care

Authors:

Julie M McLellan (juliemclellan@rocketmail.com)
Anita H Laidlaw (ahl1@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Version: 4 Date: 12 September 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir / Madam

Thank you for your review of the amendments made to our research article entitled: ‘Perceptions of postnatal care: factors influencing primiparous mothers’ perceptions of postnatal communication and care’. We have made the final requested amendment following the useful comments of the reviewer and would like to resubmit the article for submission in your journal.

We believe this article is of great interest to many of those involved in the support and care of new mothers and their babies and also to individuals who carry out research into the care and support offered to new mothers. We thank the reviewers for the time they have taken to review this manuscript and have completed the further changes suggested by one reviewer, which we agree clarify the variables collected.

We highlight the following changes after considering the reviewers comments:

**Reviewer: Birgit Reime**

*Demography is the science of describing the population. An interval (time lag between birth and survey participation) is not a demographic characteristic. Please edit.*

We have altered the methods section to read ‘Some demographic questions were included such as maternal age, participants also provided postcode in order to measure deprivation in the area of residence using the unemployment rates from the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation[26]. Factors including the number of months since they had given birth, whether they had breastfed, and if so, for how many months, were also recorded [44].’

Further, where the term ‘demographic factors’ was previously used, we have altered the text to read ‘demographic and additional factors’ where appropriate.

Thank you for considering our manuscript again and we look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Julie McLellan and Anita Laidlaw