Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors associated with lack of postnatal care among Palestinian women: A cross-sectional study of three clinics in the West Bank

Version: 3 Date: 26 May 2008

Reviewer: Susan Watt

Reviewer’s report:

Reviewer’s 2ND report
Title: Factors associated with lack of Postnatal Care among Palestinian Women: A cross-sectional study in three Clinics in West Bank

Version: 2 Date: 28 May 2008
Reviewer: Susan Watt

Reviewer’s report:

Based on your assessment of the validity of the manuscript, what do you advise should be the next step?

X Accept without further revision
- Accept after discretionary revisions (which the authors can choose to ignore)
- Accept after minor essential revisions (which the authors can be trusted to make)
- Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions
- Reject because scientifically unsound
- Reject because too small an advance to publish (note that BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth will publish all sound studies including sound negative studies)

Responses to 1st review

TYPE OF COMMENT REVIEWER COMMENT ACTION
Major Compulsory Revisions
Abstract the sample was not “randomly selected” CORRECTED
“postnatal care very important” CORRECTED
data does not jibe CORRECTED
Response rates unclear Ns ADDED; MUCH CLEARER
P 4 or 5 sample size justification should be provided DONE
P 6 “don’t know” as missing data AN EXPLANATION IS PROVIDED (with which I do not agree) AND THE WORDING HAS BEEN TONED DOWN. Now page 9
P 6 onward Authors should refrain from using the term “normal delivery” DONE

P 23 Figure 2 Figure 2 title page N is given as 166; the N was 167 (from Table 1) DONE

Minor Essential Revisions
P 4; LAST PARA with medical or social background DONE
“sufficiently staffed and equipped” Clearer writing done
.....ensure a
“wide range”? Volume is obvious; range is not DONE

P 8; last paragraph GRAMMAR DONE

P 13;line 11 Missing word DONE

Figures 1 and 2 need labels and consistent formatting DONE

OVERALL Language choices/tenses/style Nicely done editing

P 10 traditional rule of DONE

P 11 other sources of information/knowledge Interesting that they continue to only include professional or formal providers. Informal providers (e.g., family) may be even more important in transmitting behaviours.

P 8 99% participation rate Some additional explanation has been provided but I am still of the opinion that the researchers need to look more closely at this phenomena. My bet is that something cultural is going on that has to do with female compliance. This could be important.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest UNCHANGED

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published DONE

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests UNCHANGED

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**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'