Reviewer's report

Title: Transition to parenthood: the needs of parents in pregnancy and early parenthood.

Version: 1 Date: 19 December 2007

Reviewer: Anna-Karin Elisabeth Dykes

Reviewer's report:

Reviewers report

The paper entitled:
Transition to parenthood: the needs of parents in pregnancy and early parenthood

1. The question posed by the authors is not new nor well defined. The aim is formulated openly and not as a question. It is too long and the third point is not relevant for a research aim.

2. The method is unclear and without a relevant reference. The concepts used belong to the Grounded theory method but the analysis is not clear. It needs a better description step by step. There should be a methodological discussion about validity, thrust wordiness, transferability, handling pre-understanding. As it is a qualitative method replication is not an issue.

3. The named categories seems to be on a basic level of content analysis. The paper would benefit from a deeper analysis. Quotations fits the descriptions.

4. The manuscript does not adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition. Aim should be put before methods and implications ought to be separated from conclusions.

5. The discussion, both the method and the content can be worked on a bit more as it is rather short. The relationship between parents seems an interesting theme to discuss.

6. The results are plain antenatal and post natal experiences and needs. Transition to parenthood is not easy to define in the results. The title ought to be changed accordingly. Conclusions in the abstract should be shortened.

7. The writing and the language is acceptable.

The above compulsory revisions must be responded to before a decision on publication can be made.

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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 below.