Reviewer’s report

Title: Discrimination in relation to parenthood reported by community psychiatric service users in the UK: a framework analysis

Version: 1 Date: 10 January 2013

Reviewer: Yaara Zisman-Ilani

Reviewer’s report:

Thursday, January 10, 2013
Dear Prof. Roe
BMC Psychiatry
Re: MS 1283575289840063

Thank you for the opportunity to review Jeffery et al. manuscript titled: "Discrimination in relation to parenthood reported by community psychiatric service users in the UK: a framework analysis". The current manuscript aim is to describe the experience of discrimination of community psychiatric service users’ in relation to becoming or being a parent. The article is good and important. There are few needed clarifications which, I believe, will improve the manuscript.

Best,

Yaara Zisman-Ilani
Department of Community Mental Health
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Israel

Background:
Page 4 first abstract:
- A period is missing after reference number 2 in the fourth row.
- The authors state that four studies have assessed the prevalence of experienced discrimination. It will be better if the authors can elaborate more on how they have come to this number. Was this based on a systematic literature review?
- Please add a reference that supports the lack of studies about discrimination of parents with mental illness.
- Authors may want to mention in this paragraph the study of self-stigma and discrimination experience among parents of people with mental illness.

Methods
Design: Please explains what do you mean by "a secondary analysis"?

Participants: Please include, in short, information of how participants were selected by the Trusts. The response rates seem very low (7%/7.6%). The authors should shortly refer to this and explain why these rates are as such.

Measures: since the DISC is the only and major measurement tool the title should be changed to "measure" and the authors should supply the readers with more info re reliability and validation of the scale. Moreover, the DISC seems to include 22 items or domains. Please write this clearer and give some examples to major domains that this scale assesses.

Discussion
- The first abstract on page 10 (that summarize the findings) can be deleted, it is redundant.
- Second paragraph on page 10: Along the manuscript authors argue that this is the first study to investigate the nature of service user-reported experiences of mental-illness based discrimination specifically in relation to parenting. However, in the second paragraph of the discussion, the authors mention and review in short a number of studies about self-stigma and feeling of discrimination. It will be better if the authors will review in the "background" section the articles and literature they mention at the second paragraph in the discussion.
- Please add a period after reference number 26.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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