Reviewer's report

Title: Violence against women by male partners and against children within the family: prevalence, associated factors, and intergenerational transmission in Romania

Version: 3 Date: 30 July 2013

Reviewer: Mariano Salazar

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions.

I praise the authors for reviewing the manuscript. Nevertheless, the manuscript still has important issues that need to be improved before publication.

Aims

The aims are not clear and somewhat contradictory. On page three the following aim is stated "to identify the prevalence of domestic violence in Romania and associated factors"; However, on the next page different "objectives" are presented which confuses the reader.

The rationale of the study is not clear. According to the background, three major studies have already been conducted about this issue in Romania. It is not clear what is this study adding to the current knowledge available in the country.

The terms family of origin and family of procreation are confusing. Please, define them clearly in the methods section or before.

Sampling and design

It is not clear if three separate studies were conducted or a panel study, following the same population in three rounds was done.

Data collection

The way the data was collected calls for collection bias because some subjects were asked by an interviewer whereas others filled the questionnaire by themselves. In addition, it is said that a 10 months period between the women and the men data collection was done. This also raises issues about recall bias. Both these biases are not discussed in the limitation of the study.

Measurements

The study outcomes are not defined clearly and some of the descriptions instruments used are too extensive. This section need to be clarified.

The results and discussion are too extensive and difficult to follow.
Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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