Author's response to reviews

Title: Extraordinary exposed in early motherhood- a qualitative study exploring experiences of mothers with type 1 diabetes

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Hereby we resubmit a manuscript ´ Extraordinary exposed in early motherhood- a qualitative study exploring experiences of mothers with diabetes ´ for new evaluation to be published in BMC Women’s Health. We have considered the comments from the reviewers and have responded to them down below.

If anything is missing, please let us know. The manuscript has not been published in or submitted to any other journal.

On behalf of both authors,
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Response to reviewers’ comments

Editorial comments:

Further consideration of your manuscript is conditional on improvement of the English used. Please ensure particular attention is paid to the abstract. You should have a native English speaking colleague help you with this, if possible, or use a commercial copyediting service.

Response: We have used an authorized British native reviewer in the previous manuscript. However, a language reviewer has checked the revised manuscript. We have changed the text in the results section to be in past tense and hop that it has improved the impression.

Reviewer 1:
It might be useful to define the terms "exposure" and "extraordinary exposed" when they are first introduced on page 7.

Response: We have defined the two words as they appear in the text in the analysis section in line with the suggestions (red marked, 2nd paragraph, page 7 and 8).

I am also wondering about what are the general practices around breastfeeding in the various hospitals? I am also wondering if there are differences among the regional guidelines as I note both rural and urban centers were used. Suggest to add some detail about these.

Response: We have elaborated the text describing breastfeeding practices in the four hospitals (red marked, 2nd paragraph, page 5)

Reviewer 2:

1. Methodological Considerations—“The participating women in our study came from various socio-demographic backgrounds…” This is the first mention of the various demographic backgrounds. The paper would be enhanced by a brief discussion of the different backgrounds participants were from and if there were any salient themes based on these backgrounds.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Abstract—last sentence. “…wellbeing.” Change to “well-being” Look for this throughout the manuscript.

2. Methods—Second sentence: “Data was gathered through audio taped…” Change to “audiotaped”

3. Results—Third sentence: “…related to own unstable…” Change to: “…related to one’s own unstable.” Make this change throughout the manuscript to “one’s own” instead of “own.”

4. Conclusion—first sentence: “…daily life postpartum which…” A comma is needed after postpartum.

Response: We have revised in line with the suggestions, except audio taped as the word processor reacts on putting the words together. We also changed to audio recorded for concordance with the text in the Method section.

5. There are numerous grammatical issues (almost every page) with this manuscript. There are too many for me to list. I suggest that an editor review this manuscript.

Response: see response to the Editorial comments.

Major Compulsory Revisions
2. Throughout the document, the authors describe “an extraordinary exposure.” More detailed information is needed about this concept in the paper for the reader to follow the focus of the study.
Response: This was also suggested by reviewer 1 and we have defined the two word as they appear in the text in the analysis section in line with the suggestions (red marked, 2nd paragraph, page 7 and 8).

3. There are several sentences that are awkward in structure, thus, making it difficult for the reader to understand the major point of the sentence:
a. Background—Third sentence: “In order to minimize…planning for and going through pregnancy should aim to achieve optimal glycemic control.” This is unclear.
Response: Revised (red marked, 1st paragraph, pag3)
b. Background—second paragraph, last sentence: “…and if the diabetes organization was disconnected.” It’s not clear what the authors were trying to convey with the use of the word “organization. Did they mean an actual agency or the coordination of diabetes care? The sentence should be restructured.
Response: Revised (red marked, 2nd paragraph, page 3)

4. Background—the last sentence is unclear and would benefit from an additional sentence that gives an example of what the author is referring to, particularly when they refer to “unfamiliar body responses, unpredictability, etc.”
Response: Revised (red marked, 1st paragraph, page 3)

5. Disconnectedness section—last paragraph: “In addition, with one exception, the child health care professionals seemed to have no knowledge about diabetes in mothers of newborns.” This sentence cannot stand alone. Needs to be supported with a quote from the qualitative data obtained.
Response: We have inserted a quote illustrating the disconnectedness (red marked. Last paragraph, page 16)

6. Discussion—first paragraph—“A number of studies have shown positive consequences…” Yet the authors only cite one study. Please include additional citations.
Response: This reference is a literature review including many studies. However, as this was unclear we have changed the text. (red marked, 2nd paragraph, page 19)

7. Discussion—first paragraph—“An increase in resilience against psychosocial stress has been demonstrated in breastfed children.” This sentence seems out of
place, particularly since the focus of this manuscript is on the mother, not the child. Review the paragraph and restructure.

Response: We agree and have removed this sentence and reference and changed the structure of the text (red marked, 2nd paragraph, page 19).

8. Methodological Considerations—“Furthermore, in line with experiences in other studies, we found…” There is only one study cited. To say “in other studies,” you must include more than one citation.

Response: We have changed from plural to singular. (red marked, 1st paragraph, page 21)