Reviewer's report

Title: Posttraumatic stress among women after induced abortion: a prospective, longitudinal multi-centre study

Version: 1  Date: 16 October 2013

Reviewer: Gail Robinson

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Minor essential revisions:
1. How is it that lifetime prevalence of trauma decreased over the 6 month follow-up. Why should a lifetime prevalence of anything decrease over a 6 month period?

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1. How is it that lifetime prevalence of trauma decreased over the 6 month follow-up. Why should a lifetime prevalence of anything decrease over a 6 month period?

2. What were the traumas, either related to attendance at the abortion clinic, or non-related? If the abortion occurred at home, how did these women have trauma related to attendance at the clinic

3. This rational was expressed as a theory re women who dropped out
   “it can also be argued that women who develop PTSD or PTSS as a result of their abortion care would be more inclined to report back to the clinic the trauma experiences they had had as a consequence of the given care”. This doesn’t make sense when one is looking at the characteristic of groups that got into trouble as their pre-abortion characteristics are not dissimilar to those who drop it.

4. there are several sentences whose meanings are very unclear:
   a) Swedish follow-up study (n=58) after induced abortion reported at four months 12 women that had been in a crisis, while at 12 months only two women still expressed their feelings in relation to the abortion in terms of a crisis.

   b) A
   "Swedish follow-up study (n=58) after induced abortion reported at four months 12 women that had been in a crisis, while at 12 months only two women still expressed their feelings in relation to the abortion in terms of a crisis.

   b) Non-responsiveness at follow-up after induced abortion was considerable"

5) The main problem is the poor return rate., however, the authors make a vaillant attempt to explain this an account for it.
6) this conclusion may not be valid, suffering people are probably the least likely to report. "it can also be argued that women who develop PTSD or PTSS as a result of their abortion care would be more inclined to report back to the clinic the trauma experiences they had had as a consequence of the given care

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

**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