Reviewer's report

Title: Assessment of Reproductive Health and Violence Against Women Among Displaced Syrians in Lebanon

Version: 2 Date: 23 November 2013

Reviewer: Natalia Linos

Reviewer's report:

The revised paper is well written and makes an important contribution to our knowledge about the needs of female Syrian refugees in Lebanon and more broadly among female survivors of conflict violence. Authors have addressed all of my previous concerns, so there are no major compulsory revisions at this stage.

Minor Essential Revisions

1) Please make sure the figures are consistent. In the discussion, for example, the authors note: “Exposure to conflict-related violence, abuse, and/or sexual violence was reported by over 25% of women” although the results section finds that it was over 30% (which is more striking and reflected later on in the discussion).

2) The statement “Although the indicators differ, we can see that the 30.8% prevalence of conflict violence that we found in our sample is close to WHO’s 37.0% prevalence of intimate partner violence in the Eastern Mediterranean region [31]” doesn’t make sense to me. It may be useful to present the IPV rate at 37% to stress that the 30.8%, which did not include intimate partner violence, is in addition to violence women may be experiencing at home (therefore to make the case that the needs for support may be much greater if one were to take into account IPV exposure as well).

3) It is still a bit unclear to me whether stress was considered a ‘mediator’ between exposure to conflict violence and poor health outcomes (as mentioned in the intro), or as a separate question: presumably women who weren’t exposed to violence also felt stress due to their refugee status - was their stress assessed and included? Some clarity here could be useful since the authors note that the majority of women reported having stress-related symptoms but is this the majority of women exposed to violence or the whole sample? I couldn’t find this answer in the tables since prevalence rates of stress seem to not be there. Please re-insert in some form either in the tables or the text.

Thank you.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable

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