Reviewer's report

**Title:** Mammography screening: views from women and primary care physicians in Crete

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 24 January 2008

**Reviewer:** Tsu Yin Wu

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BMC Women's Health Review

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Overall: Understanding the perceptions about mammography screening from both women and physicians' perceptive is important. The research findings will strengthen the literature to provide evidence that is culturally-appropriate for promoting mammography screening in this population.

1. **Is the question posed by the authors new and well defined?**
   It will be helpful if authors can state the research questions clearly and also provide a list of the questions they used in the interview.

2. **Are the methods appropriate and well described, and are sufficient details provided to replicate the work?**
   The research method that authors selected is an appropriate one, however, the authors did not provide adequate details for data analysis (of interview data). Also, the way that the results presented is not the traditional format reporting for qualitative data. If the analysis was done using content analysis, then the authors need to present the themes and how the themes were identified, it needs to be clearly described in the analysis.

3. **Are the data sound and well controlled?**
   The authors used a convenience sample and how the sample selected was not clear. It is also questionable how the results can be generalized to the population in Crete.

4. **Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?**
   The results section needs to be improved. The demographic table should include the aggregate data instead of individual data.

5. **Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?**
   Overall, the discussion was well written. Several important issues came up related to data collection, including why the authors did not explore more (during
the interview) in specifics of what kind of mammography women participants were referring to, i.e., screening vs. diagnostics. The barriers may be very different with the purpose of the screening. Also, it will be interesting to compare the differences and similarity between the perceptions of women’s and physicians’ perceptions on the same question, e.g., barriers to mammography and how the intervention can be designed using such findings. Also the findings will be strengthened if the findings can be presented corresponding with women’s demographics. For example, women who report the absence of symptoms as a reason for not having mammography, are these responses from women who had or not had mammogram in the past or are these responses are from older vs. younger age groups, etc.

6. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes

7. Is the writing acceptable?
It needs editorial assistance to improve the readability throughout the text.

The comments should be considered under the category of Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached).

Decision: Recommended for publication once these comments are appropriately addressed.