Reviewer's report

Title: Exploring how IBCLCs manage ethical dilemmas: A qualitative study

Version: 1 Date: 9 March 2012

Reviewer: Raul Garza

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential Revisions:

1) Abstract:
   Background paragraph:
   not so good, instead of bad.
   Reason: the term bad implies a negative concept, and is not really always a
   negative choice or option that we have, but a different one according to
   perception.

2) Background:
   First paragraph, second and third lines:
   Structures the basis, instead of studies.
   Reason: Ethics structures principles, values and virtues giving the basis for
   action that means morality, but not really studying morality.

3) Paragraph 1 on Ethical dilemmas, 2nd line:
   Ethical reasons both for and against, or diverse reasons for a particular course of
   action..
   Reason: a dilemma emerges not only with opposite reasons, but really is more
   common to have diverse opinions regarding a specific course of action; to have
   “pro and con” is really a matter of decision, not of dilemma as in a matter of two
   different ways of action, but not necessarily pro and against.

4) Paragraph 1 on Ethical dilemmas, last two lines:
   …legally and ethically wrong, but if your family is starving it might be morally
   justified.
   Reason: morality is the practical aspect (action) and ethics is the theoretical basis
   for the action, so morality could be judged as not so wrong or justified, but ethics
   is not as mutable as the application of principles and values.

Methods:

5) Paragraph 1, first line:
   It is not enough to state the first sentence, you should mention specifically which
   qualitative method and how is applied; your references are good, but you have to
mention the specifics in your article.
In the same paragraph, at the end, is not clear what you mean by: identified data saturation, and no other categories or sub-themes would emerge. Will you explain it more clearly?

6) Results:
Paragraph 5
Staying Mother-Centered
Being the overall theme and encompassing, means that there were other themes, is it worth mentioning them?

7) Following paragraphs:
As we go along the explanation of the six (5+1) categories we found numbered notes (4), (3), (5), that to me represent the intertwined aspects of categories, but really there is no explanation in the text and also when you mention categories you wrote: 1), 2), 3) and at the end of those paragraphs is written as: (1), (2), (3)…

Discretionary Revisions:
1) Paragraph 1 on literature review, fourth line:
“ethics” instead of “ethic$”; all words should be with or without “ ”.

2) Last paragraph before: 2. Identifying context:
IBCLC instead of IBLCE or otherwise we do not know what IBLCE is.

3) Conclusions:
Paragraph 5, third line:
These interest”s“ include …

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare not having past, present or future interests or gains respect the publication of this article.
Not having or holding any patents or interests in this field of knowledge and professionalism.
Not having any financial or non-financial competing interests
So, 'I declare that I have no competing interests'