Reviewer's report

Title: Preparedness to provide nursing care to women exposed to intimate partner violence: a quantitative study in primary health care in Sweden

Version: 3 Date: 30 September 2011

Reviewer: Angela Taft

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Re Review: Preparedness and IPV in PHC: a quantitative study among district nurses in Sweden
Angela Taft

Minor essential revisions (esp Q3)

Background: I am happy that the authors have given a good background to the Swedish context.

1. Methods: is now better explained. The sentence about the clinic as a variable can be removed.

2. Setting and data collection: Please spell out PHCC at the beginning of this section and then give the abbreviation. The random selection procedures are now better explained.

3. Data analysis: ‘P. 7 dependant’ variable – you use depending? And then dependant. This section is unclear – please outline what the question was, which was significant. How did you develop your preparedness index? This forms the basis for table 7? Please clarify if this your question about ‘their understanding of their own preparedness’

4. Results: Much clearer, although I would substitute ‘non-response rate’- for ‘dropout’ on P8, first paragraph.

5. indicate where the flowchart is to be located.

6. The tables are better presented but the confidence intervals only include one and not both intervals – please correct this. Also please indicate your comparison group in subscript beneath each table. I can only assume it was nurses over 60 for age and those who did not think they were prepared for preparedness.

7. Discussion: Summary – these are important findings and I congratulate you for looking at both levels. P11, L4 – I suggest ‘many had poor knowledge and concerning attitudes similar to those in the community’ instead of ‘distinct attitudes’. P.12 L2, please add a comment about whether you think referral to a doctor is adequate or whether they would have the same shortcomings (no training, community attitudes?) I agree with Dr Lo Fo Wong on the limitation of guidelines without organisational mandate, a priority recognised in nursing
organisations and government primary health care policies and sustained upskilling.

8. Re community attitudes, the WHO study confirms that IPV is most common among lower SES groups, but not only there – is this what you meant? It is useful to give your preferred answer in the relevant table.

Corrections:
There are many small grammatical mistakes which should be corrected.
P.3 L4 Swedish legal system
P4. L8 interventions, since women (remove IPV …isolation) exposed to violence become isolated….
Pls correct ref 21 Bacchus not Bacchu

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests