Reviewer’s report

Title: Best practice in bereavement photography after perinatal death: Qualitative analysis with 104 parents

Version: 3  Date: 27 April 2014

Reviewer: Rana Limbo

Reviewer’s report:

Please number your comments and divide them into

1. - Major Compulsory Revisions
The author must respond to these before a decision on publication can be reached. For example, additional necessary experiments or controls, statistical mistakes, errors in interpretation.

2. - Minor Essential Revisions
The author can be trusted to make these. For example, missing labels on figures, the wrong use of a term, spelling mistakes.

The authors cite Sandelowski’s 2000 article, “Whatever happened to qualitative description?” in l. 154. Sandelowski wrote a follow-up to that article, “What’s in a name? Qualitative description revisited” (Research in Nursing and Health, 2010, 33, 77-84) to clarify what she terms “misconceptions” (p. 77) stemming from the 2000 paper. I would like the authors to include both citations and to assess the potential need for another methods article on thematic analysis because they clearly define a process of determining “categories,” followed by further analysis grouping related content into themes. (Methods, third paragraph)

3. - Discretionary Revisions
These are recommendations for improvement which the author can choose to ignore. For example clarifications, data that would be useful but not essential.

1. Create a table for results (percentages and numbers of those with photos and those without, those with who had “positive thoughts” (l. 176), those without who expressed “some degree of desire for them” (l. 177)

2. Create a “Clinical Implications” table. These findings are richly nuanced and answer questions that bedside care providers in particular repeatedly ask: Do we need consent? How should I ask about photos? Should I ask again?

entitled, “Using photography to honor relationship between parent and baby.” The article’s content supports practical suggestions for caregivers that parents identified in data from this research. (e.g., discussion: ll. 457-463; discussion: ll. 443 ff.; ll. 397 ff.)

Please note that both the comments entered here and answers to the questions below constitute the report, bearing your name, that will be forwarded to the authors and published on the site if the article is accepted.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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 that I have no competing interests.