Reviewer's report

Title: Traffic Police Officers' Experience of Post-crash Care to Road Traffic Injury Victims: A Qualitative Study in Tanzania

Version: 0 Date: 05 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

"PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

No - there are minor issues

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

No - there are minor issues

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

N/A - there are no statistics in this study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Maybe - with major revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: Overall, I revised a well-written paper, whose implications for road safety (from the view of victimology and post-crash attention) may imply a huge set of
contributions to the field. The characteristics of the studied population - not usually addressed in similar studies - gives an added value to the study.

Although the sample is considerably small (even for a qualitative study), the results are sound and the conclusions are interesting, and do not substantially exceed the scope of the actual data.

Even though the study has different strengths, some key amendments need to be performed, as I will detail below.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

Although the objective/aim stated at Pages 4-5 is reasonably pertinent to the methods and procedures used by the authors, it is worth remarking that it should be also clearly and explicitly presented in the abstract.

Also for this section, a bit more of information (basic demographics) of the sample should be needed, to better describe the participants of the study. Instead, authors have included information that is redundant for the abstract ("three phases from December 2017 to June 2018"). Please check and amend!

Keywords need attention, in order to acquire more accuracy - please revise!

Also, and same as in the abstract, more information on the "profile" of your informants is needed; for example, gender and age distribution may explain certain trends in the existing perceptions/experiences and, then, in the responses provided. This issue should also be discussed as a potential limitation of the study.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

Apart from the stated above, I would like to give the authors some additional suggestions, in order to improve as much as possible the quality and pertinence of the paper in its revised version:

- The title is a bit too long, and the geographical coverage should not be that specific. Considering that the authors did a good job supporting the methods/tools and human information sources chosen for this paper, a more appropriate title could be "Traffic Police Officers’ Experience of Post-crash Care to Road Traffic Injury Victims: A Qualitative Study in Tanzania", if we bear in mind the validity given by the discussion and assume that employed methods are accurate.

- Although the aim of qualitative studies is not to acquire a major generalizability (due to its specificity and reduced coverage), improving the presentation of results according to sex/age/tenure could be useful to identify some potential patterns and differences in the responses provided by officers.
- One of the most interesting issues mentioned by the participants was the ""action in absence of adequate resources"". A bit more of discussion of the relevance of this matter may enrich the contents and practical value of this study.

- More and better details on the implications of the study is needed. As you have done a good work performing rigorously the research, and the results are interesting and well-supported in the discussion, a higher practical value should be given to the manuscript (e.g. how does it help to improve current practices and experiences in trauma/injury attention?; what is the main contribution of this paper?)."

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**  
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**  
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**  
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**  
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**  
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

This reviewer has been recruited by a partner organization, Research Square. Reviewers with declared or apparent competing interests are not utilized for these reviews. This reviewer has agreed to publication of their comments online under a Creative Commons Attribution License attributed to Research Square and was paid a small honorarium for completing the review within specified timeframe. Honoraria for reviews such as this are paid regardless of the reviewer recommendation.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal