Reviewer’s report

Title: Exploring the intangible costs associated with stillbirth: a structured review and synthesis of the evidence

Version: 3 Date: 12 May 2015

Reviewer: Sabine de Wall

Reviewer’s report:

1 Minor Essential Revision (4)

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
The background for the study is well defined. The research-question is clear and highly relevant.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
The methods chosen are appropriate. The search strategy is transparent and well described.
The authors explain well why they selected particular methods to answer various aspects of their research question.

3. Are the data sound?
The quality of the data appears sound.

4. Do the figures appear to be genuine, i.e. without evidence of manipulation?
The figures are well designed and clearly structured. It seems that figure 1 contains a spelling mistake in the first box (n=49p81).

5. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
The authors follow the CRD and PRISMA guidelines.

6. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
The discussion is thorough and well balanced. Maybe the remark in line 376 could be dismissed, as there is no need to devalue positive experiences as little as they are. Also, personally I would avoid direct citations from secondary data.

7. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
The limitations are described honestly.

8. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
The authors refer elaborately to the existing literature.
9. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes.

10. Is the writing acceptable?
No concerns.

**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 that I have no competing interests.