Reviewer's report

Title: Associations between social capital and maternal depression: results from a follow-up study in China

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Reviewer: Atif Rahman

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting article in an important area. The findings add to the body of literature on the subject. The location of the study in a sample adhering to China's one-child policy makes it more interesting.

General comments

Throughout the article, the term postpartum depression (PPD) should be replaced with perinatal depression (PND) as the research includes pregnancy as well as the post-partum periods.

English language is acceptable but could be improved. Suggestions too numerous to list but some examples are given below. Use of present of tense needs to be consistent in sections.

Introduction

Line 45: Change 'interest drops' to 'loss of interest'.

Line 47: Change 'attempt to suicide' to 'suicidal ideation or attempt'

Methods

Line 102: 'Cognitive Disorder' is not a recognised term. Please replace with 'Cognitive deficit'.

Line 103: Replace 'and all of them had signed the consent form' with following informed voluntary written consent'.

Line 109: Better to use the term Barcode than QR code.
Results

Line 177: Instead of saying 'were of introvert character', better to say, 'described themselves as introverted'.

Line 177: Instead of 'planned a pregnancy', say 'had a planned pregnancy'.

Lines 179-181: Better to say 'reported good relationships with husband (92%) and parents-in-law (74.7%).

Lines 192-195: May be better to present these results in Table form, with SC domains in column and time points in row.

Discussion:

Line 228: O'Hara

Line 231: Month instead of moth.

Overall, the Discussion section is balanced and a reasonable reflection on the key results.

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

Yes

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

Yes

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.

I recommend additional statistical review
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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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