Reviewer’s report

Title: Overcoming Challenges to Treating Tobacco use During Pregnancy - A Qualitative study of Australian General Practitioners Barriers

Version: 0 Date: 13 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Aaron Drovandi

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript detailing a study investigating the challenges experiences by Australian GPs was well written, easy to follow, and described an appropriate methodology to address the aims of the research. I believe that this manuscript is suitable for publication with minor changes which can be easily addressed by the reviewers.

1. Abstract: The abstract is well written, with only a few minor items that need changing. First, could you indicate the period in which the interviews were conducted (also add this into the main methods section). Also, the second sentence of the methods is strangely written and is difficult to interpret, even after having read the full manuscript. You may also want to specify in the results component of the abstract after "clear details nicotine replacement therapy guidelines" to also read 'for special populations' to reflect the primary barriers raised by GPs (guidelines for pregnant women are lacking)

2. Introduction: The introduction was also very well done, I found the flow of information logical and relevant to the overall study, with the items raised in the introduction also suitably referred to in the discussion. No obvious changes are needed.

3. Methods: The methods are also appropriate, including the description of how the framework was used to develop the questionnaire. As stated for the abstract, could you include details as to when the interviews were conducted so readers can gauge the recency of the data collected, and in the future relate the findings to changes in clinical guidelines as they progress.

4. Results: The results mostly includes a logical flow of information which describes the primary issues raised by participant GPs. Could I ask that participants be given individual identifier numbers, as 'Female, Queensland, age unknown' gave 3 of the first 8 quotes, and it would be good to know if this was all from the same participant or not (i.e. are relatively few participants responsible for a disproportionate number of the quotes). Also the first quote of the subsection 'Current practices were suboptimal' doesn't appear to match this heading. It may need to be moved or deleted as I found it jarring in the context of the section it has been placed in.

5. Discussion/Conclusion: I have no issues relating to the discussion or conclusion sections, as I found that they appropriately summarised, and then discussed the primary findings of the study as related to the current literature and the implications of the findings.

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.

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:

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