Reviewer's report

Title: High School Suicide in South Africa: Teachers' knowledge, views and training needs

Version: 2  Date: 12 November 2014

Reviewer: Sorin Ursoniu

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1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
Yes, the present study was conducted to assess the knowledge of teachers with regard to identifying the warning signs of suicidal behaviour, assessing the type of information they give to students in the class after a suicide of one of their class mates, and assessing their views and training needs on the prevention of suicidal behaviour in students.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
Yes, five focus group discussions were conducted with 50 high school teachers. Design and participants, focus group procedure, ethical consent and data analysis are presented in detail. The approach taken for the analysis of the focus group results was included in the manuscript.

3. Are the data sound?
Yes. The data were analysed by using NVivo version 8, using a general inductive approach. A ‘tree structure’ was generated in which themes and subthemes were linked to one another.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
Yes.

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
Yes, the discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data.

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
No, study limitations are not mentioned.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
Yes, the main author has two published paper mentioned in the reference section.

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes.

9. Is the writing acceptable?
Needs some language and typos corrections before being published.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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.