**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Trauma to Transformation: The Lived Experience of Bereaved Parents of Children with Chronic Life-Threatening Illnesses in Singapore

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 23 Sep 2019

**Reviewer:** Yuko Nagoya

**Reviewer's report:**

Dear authors,

The thematic of your paper is focused in a very important unsolved issue of the pediatric palliative care in Asia.

My minor comments are as follows:

#1 Page4, Line46 in Background

"caring for a chronically ill child involves close liaison with medical professionals, but such interactions can sometimes heighten distress levels for parents"

I think it is easier to understand if the reason why the distress levels are high is added.

#2 Page6, Line9 in Present Study and Research Questions

"(1) How do Asian parents journey from the diagnosis of their child's chronic life-threatening illness to his/her death? (2) How do Asian bereaved parents experience life after their child's death? (3) How can psychosocial care be enhanced so that Asian bereaved parents of children with chronic life-threatening illness better cope with their experience of loss, and be provided with opportunities for meaning-making leading to posttraumatic growth?"

As you know well, there are many countries in Asia with different cultural backgrounds such as religion. Since this study is a survey in Singapore, it is better to use "Singapore" instead of "Asia". For example, expressions like "The greatest comfort I have is knowing that she is with Jesus." are not familiar in countries with many Buddhists, even in the same Asian region.

#3 Page8, Line7 in Participant Recruitment
"The research team received 31 referrals, of which 27 families agreed to participate. Two family units showed depressive symptoms during the interview."

Did the demographic information of the 4 families who did not give consent and the 2 families with depressive symptoms differed from the 25 families that could be investigated?

#4 Page6, Line34 in Methods

Please describe the survey period. If possible, describe the survey period in the abstract.

#5 Page30, Line29 in Limitation and Future Directions

If you use the term Asia throughout your paper, you should describe in Limitation that you are investigating only in Singapore.

**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.

Unable to assess

**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
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