Reviewer’s report

Title: Compassion fatigue, watching patients suffering and emotional display rules among hospice professionals: a daily diary study

Version: 0 Date: 10 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Joaquín T. Limonero

Reviewer's report:

The authors present an interesting paper where they try to relate compassion fatigue of hospice staff when coping with patient suffering.

In general, the article is very well developed, the introduction is interesting and the methodology and procedure are adequate. The discussion is in accordance with the object of study.

Despite the interest of the work, it presents some minor aspects, that the correction of them will improve the quality of work presented.

Changes or suggestions are related to:

Title

The title is too long it should be simplified and should include "a pilot study". For example

"The effect of compassion fatigue among hospice professionals: a pilot study"

Introduction

The introduction and the manuscript need an up-date of the references. The most recent reference is dated on 2017.

The authors should describe in more detail the theoretical framework of compassion and stress theories.

The last paragraph of the introduction should move to procedure (lines 51-58)

Method

Procedure:
The authors need to explain if the professionals that not participated (refuse) are similar to those that participated (e.g. sex, age, experience)

Measures:

Please provide psychometric properties of the scales uses or part of scales (Daily emotional job demands and Daily emotion work display).

Discussion

Authors should comment as limitations on the sample size that is small and that parts of the scale have been used, which may partly invalidate the results.

The authors need to explain the practical application of the results of the study.

References

References need an up-date.

Please check format in many references in special the name of journals.

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 am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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