Reviewer's report

Title: A comparison of intimate partner and other sexual assault survivors' use of different types of specialized hospital-based violence services

Version: 0 Date: 25 May 2016

Reviewer: Jennifer Tabler

Reviewer's report:

Mismatch between title and abstract on first page. Not sure if the author(s) copied and pasted the wrong abstract, or BMC provided the wrong abstract. Abstract in the body appears to be correct.

Importance: This research fills an important gap in the literature by examining the differences in health services utilization by types of sexual violence.

Minor Issues:

Line 38 there is an extra space

Line 48 there is a missing parentheses

The sentence between Lines 51-58 is awkward/run-on as written.

Major considerations:

THEORY: This paper lacks a grounding theoretical framework. Although the others present prevailing public "myths" about IPV (and these are very important to address), a nod to a broader theoretical framework (health belief model, gender or feminist theory) would greatly enhance the generalizability of this work.

METHOD: A major limitation would be analytic robustness. Additional statistical analyses are recommended. Cross-tabulation and chi-squared tests are useful for descriptive statistics. However, as presented, these results are not adjusted for potential confounding factors. Did the authors attempt to use regression techniques (such as logistic regression) to assess outcomes while controlling for covariates? The authors have access to a basic set of controls (marital status, age, employment, social support etc). Given that the sample size is around 500-600
(depending on variables used), the authors should use regression techniques to assess the probability or likelihood of receiving forms of treatment based on assailant type (i.e., dependent variables in Table 4) while controlling for available covariates. This would enhance the quality of this study.

**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.

No

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

**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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