Reviewer’s report

Title: Are women adequately informed before gynaecological surgery?

Version: 0 Date: 18 Jan 2017

Reviewer: Miles Murphy

Reviewer's report:

The authors are to be congratulated for investigating the important topic of surgical informed consent.

I have a few comments regarding the manuscript:

1. In the Methods the authors mention a "complementary questionnaire" in the first paragraph, but they don't explain what this is until the third paragraph. This leaves the reader a little confused. It would be helpful to provide some description of what this questionnaire is when first mentioned.

2. In the Discussion there is no description of potential weaknesses of the study. One of the biggest weaknesses of this study is that of recall bias, and this should be listed in the Discussion. Patients are given a great deal of information during a preoperative counseling visit that can often be overwhelming and hard to digest. It could be that the surgeon does mention some information on sexual function etc at this time, but that the patient does not remember.

This study would benefit by adding a comparison of survey responses from surgeons regarding what they feel they have communicated on these topics. I understand that that is not particularly feasible at this time, but it should be discussed as a potential limitation of the study.

3. The authors stress that much of the data regarding the impact of the various surgeries can have on the various functions of interest is CONFLICTING. And yet the authors imply that the surgeons are failing to tell the patients what impact their surgery will have on these various functions. Could it be that there is no agreed upon conclusions that they can pass onto their patients. I suppose the authors believe that the surgeons when presented with discordant information should pass that discordant information along to their patients, but is this really valuable information for the patients? This conundrum should be flushed out more in the Discussion.
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

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I am able to assess the statistics

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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