Reviewer’s report

Title: Role of HIV in the desire of procreation and motherhood in women living with HIV in Spain: a qualitative approach

Version: 0 Date: 09 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Saara Greene

Reviewer's report:

1. Understanding and supporting the fertility and mothering desires of women living with HIV is an important area of research, specifically in order to ensure that women living with HIV know that they can have a healthy pregnancy and baby. I would like to offer a number of suggestions that could strengthen this paper in order that it can be published. One concern I have in my own reading is regarding the language barrier - it may be that some of my concerns are due to my own lack of understanding or interpretation of the arguments that the authors were attempting to get across.

2. The background should include a more comprehensive review of scholarship in the area. For example, please include Loutfy, Hart, Mohammed et al (2009) paper on fertility desires. Although it is quantitative, it does provide important background information.

3. Theoretical Framework - This should come before the methods section and what is currently there, should go under the METHODS. I suggest moving the section on concepts of motherhood to your theoretical framework section and elucidate how the four dimensions shape your analysis and understanding of the women's experiences in your study.

4. Methods - in this order - recruitment and participant information; method of data collection (in-depth interviews drawing on who?; method of analysis - thematic? How did you code? Etc…your analysis section must be much clearer and in-depth. You suggest content analysis but do not explain what this is and how you are doing it. Ethics approval?

5. Results - participant info should be in methods section. Start with a paragraph on what you asked and some of the main themes we can expect to see moving forward from this point. I would omit impact of diagnosis and start from the point of this paper by giving us your analysis of how the women conceptualized motherhood in the context of HIV - this would be in line with your theoretical framework. I would separate out desires to become a mother (maybe procreation is a bit too clinical a term given the emphasis on motherhood identity in this paper) from the barriers. Provide a deeper and more cohesive analysis of how women living with HIV make decisions to become or not become mothers.
6. Discussion - must be in line with the theoretical framework and provide a clear discussion of how women make decisions to become mothers or not - and what health care providers etc can do to support women in making these decisions.

**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.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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