Reviewer’s report

Title: Psychological health of women who have conceived using Assisted Reproductive Technology in Taiwan: Findings from a longitudinal study

Version: 0 Date: 10 May 2018

Reviewer: Eric Blyth

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript reports on an empirical study of the psychological characteristics of 158 women who had conceived one or more children following treatment provided at a single fertility centre in Taipei, Taiwan. Study participants completed a web-based questionnaire at four points in time: during the first, second, and third trimesters of pregnancy and at 7-10 weeks after birth. The measures utilised in the study included a number of standardised instruments generating quantitate data regarding the women's psychological health. I am not an expert on all the statistical methods used in this study and would recommend that this aspect of the manuscript is reviewed by an expert statistician.

The manuscript is generally well written, applies relevant methodological approaches and makes appropriate reference to existing relevant research. It makes a useful contribution to the cross-cultural study of the psychosocial aspects of assisted reproductive technology. As such I would encourage its publication, although the following revisions should be undertaken:

1. Revise the title of the manuscript, which is misleading. It should refer to "Psychological health of women who have conceived using Assisted Reproductive Technology". This error is repeated in several places in the Abstract and main text (e.g. reference to "naturally conceived controls" [p. 5 line 46] should be to "controls who had conceived naturally") - although elsewhere in the text this error is not made.

2. Overall, the language used in the manuscript is appropriate and use of English is adequate. However the manuscript requires careful proof-reading to excise relatively minor errors, see for example page 8 lines 17-20: where it is stated that "The inclusion criteria for participation were that the woman have not had any live births". This should surely refer to previous live births? In addition the text includes frequent confusion between use of singular and plural in the same sentence.

3. It is not evident that the State Anxiety Inventory, the Maternity Social Support Scale, the Intimate Bond Measure or the Parenting Stress Index have been validated for use among non-Western subjects. This merits further clarification/discussion.
4. The authors should include a section that discusses the limitations of the study.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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