Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge and practice of adolescent females about menstruation and menstruation hygiene visiting a public healthcare institute of Quetta, Pakistan

Version: 1 Date: 01 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Kelly Alexander

Reviewer's report:

"Demographic characteristics revealed that mean age of the respondents was 15.45±1.92 years"
-- I think that you can just round to full years, as it isn't relevant to have the decimals.

"Mothers' stayed main source of information,"
-- I am unclear what this means

The sentences from the abstract are repeated 2-3 times throughout the paper. I think it is best practice to not copy and paste.

"An important issue which is often neglected is that even though the epoch of teenage years is a hale and hearty fraction of life."
-- This sentence is awkward and doesn't really make sense

"Many young girls are often poorly knowledgeable, less experienced and not XXXX comfortable when it comes to reproductive and sex related information and services."
-- I would take out "much"

The tables should all have n=xxx instead of just frequency or N. The tables need to be arranged better. Also there should not be judgement on bathing or other knowledge without references, as washing with water or not bathing daily during menstruation is not necessarily incorrect. What is incorrect is the idea that things need to be done differently during menstruation -- but that these branch from social taboos that were taught to them, not necessarily the girls lack of education. I agree with the conclusion that girls need more knowledge about menstruation from health centres, schools or other places -- however from this discussion this doesn't really make sense: "Whereas, 77.7% participants of the current study had had no prior classes about menstruation at school etc., probably due to lack of confidence and shyness about discussion, of adolescent health, with the teachers." How is not having classes due to shyness?

"Surprisingly, a high number of respondents didn't consume medicines but rested to ease the discomfort and used napkins as an adsorbent material, which is quite different from the findings of Khan et al., who reported an under usage of napkins due to lack of affordability and comfort availed from using homemade pads in Pakistan [24]."

--Run on sentence
Also not sure what "rag made" is. And homemade (pad?) is one word.
The survey questionnaire should be included

Overall the discussion needs to be revised, as it currently is awkward and does not flow well. It does not tie together well the current results, other studies, and remaining questions (or limitations).

"This probable difference might be a result of difference in community outlook and socioeconomic rank."
-- this sentence seems out of place and "this probable difference" doesn't make sense.

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?
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