Reviewer’s report

Title: Physiotherapists' and midwives' views of increased inter recti abdominis distance and its management in women after childbirth

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Reviewer: Philip Teg-Nefaah Tabong

Reviewer's report:

Physiotherapists' and midwives' views of increased inter recti abdominis distance and its management in women after childbirth

Thanks for submitting a revised version of the manuscript. I still maintain that the manuscript has merits and the area of research is interesting. However, some editing may be required to improve flow.

Abstract

The authors have sufficiently addressed my concern here.

Background

The additions are essential in contextualizing their study.

On page 4 lines 29 to 34: The statements should revised. The statements do not read well. There is also a typo there "DRA" should be changed to "IRD"

On same page 4: lines 58-60: What does the sentence "A recent review found a few studies of weak quality indicating that IRD width may be associated with health-related quality of life, abdominal…." What does the "few studies with weak quality" mean?

Study design

Language correction is needed.

Participants

My concerns have been sufficiently addressed in this section.
Procedure for data collection

My concerns have been sufficiently addressed

Data analysis

The authors should indicate how the coding was done—did they employ any computed assisted tool such as NVivo, Atlas.ti etc.

Results

My concerns have been addressed

Discussion

I am of the opinion that certain phrases need to be revised to maintain a balance in the discussion. Statement such as "deficiencies in the management' Lacked knowledge" are problematic. The authors did not assess the knowledge of the participants. The participants only expressed the opinion about IRD in the thematic areas explored. But statement such as "most of the participants lacked knowledge or deficient in" creates the impression that a tool was used to assess participants knowledge and a cutoff determined to put participants into various levels of knowledge. Even the use of word such "most" should be avoided since these are group interviews.

Strength and limitation

Language correction is required. For example "The focus group form was chosen for data collection……." What does "the focus group form" mean?

Conclusion

Acceptable

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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