Reviewer’s report

Title: Weathering the Rural Reality Delivery of the Nurse-Family Partnership Home Visitation Program in Rural British Columbia, Canada

Version: 0 Date: 11 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Jacqueline Barnes

Reviewer's report:

This paper is well written and covers an important topic. The nurse home visiting intervention that was studied had been promoted widely, but much of the evidence is based on delivery in urban settings. Rural delivery may not be as successful, with the need for nurse teams to meet regularly with their supervisor, and to attend different kinds of training.

The literature is well presented in the introduction.

Regarding the method, I do find it frustrating when one is expected to refer to other papers by the authors to gain all the relevant details and slightly more could be included about the particular style of qualitative analysis.

Regarding the results, the first part of the 'results' section (page 11 lines 232 to 238) is in actual fact part of the method, describing the participants and should be moved.

I would like more information about how the six themes were identified, and also, more importantly, how relevant they were to the study participants. Ideally I would like to see a table with the six themes and how many participants made comments relevant to each theme.

Going through the results I found that there was at least one statement, or longer quote, from 9 of the 10 nurses, but only from 4 of the 11 supervisors which led me to think that they did not make comments that linked so well with the six themes. Thus I would like the table proposed above to indicate how many nurses and how many supervisors made relevant comments. Also some of the nurses (PHN 3, PHN4, PHN9) are cited three or more times, so more balance is better with respect to giving examples and I would like to see quotes from many more of the supervisors.

The discussion is good but could be improved by making delivery and policy recommendations more succinctly.

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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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