Reviewer’s report

Title: Individual and healthcare system factors influencing antenatal care attendance in Saudi Arabia

Version: 0 Date: 30 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Judith Anaman-Torgbor

My Comments to the Author

Title
1. Based on the research aim which was clearly stated in the abstract, the author may consider revising the title to read "Individual and healthcare system factors influencing antenatal care in Saudi Arabia"

Background
2. Para 1, Lines 32-33: The author needs to include "about" in the sentence to read: Globally, about 500,000 women…
3. Para 1, Line 36: The sentence should be revised to read "However, many women globally are not offered…"

Method
4. What is the research design?
5. What sampling technique was employed by this study?
6. What levels of health facilities were included in this study?
7. What are the features of the facilities that were identified for this study?
8. What types of health services are provided at these facilities?
9. What informed the sampling of 242 participants for this study to avoid type I & II errors?

Results
10. Para 3, Line 202-205: The author needs to reword this write-up in order to engage the reader.
11. Para 4, line 209: The author indicated "education group…” this can be revised to "educational background or level of education”?
12. The author may consider presenting the results of the chi-Square test analysis in a separate table to engage the reader?
13. The author may also consider revising the study tables especially table 2. The measurements under "Reasons" should not be stated in question form as administered to the participants; instead they should just be variables. For instance "I believe that it is not important to attend ANC" could be re-stated as "ANC not important"
14. Lines 223-228: The author indicated here "series of tests were performed" However, these test were not presented to enhance the understanding of the findings?
15. Line 236: The author mentioned that T-tests were used to explore differences. Where are the results for the T-tests and which variables were explored here?
16. Further statistical analyses including inferential statistical analysis are required to explore associations among the study variables and possibly predict mothers' behaviors.

Discussion

17. Para1, lines 270-272: The author may consider putting the information here in perspective for the reader by indicating for instance that "this study explored association between potential factors that have been previously identified by mothers in a qualitative study .........."

18. Para2, lines 279-280: It is not clear what the author want to communicate here?

19. Para3, line 285-295: Could this be that the findings here were as a result of the sample size? (Type II error)

20. Para4, line 299-300: Why would this be the case?

21. It appeared that the discussion chapter is a comparison of the current study with previous ones lacking critical thinking discussion. The findings were not presented in the context of previous studies so as to identify potential future study areas.

Conclusion

22. The study indeed identifies some important factors influencing maternal attendance such as staff communication, the author failed to show how this findings will contribute to the worth of knowledge in the topic area and did not also suggest possible area for further studies to improve the understanding.

**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.

No

**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.
I am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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