Reviewer’s report

Title: Human rights and mental health in post-apartheid South Africa: lessons from health care professionals working with suicidal inmates in the prison system

Version: 1 Date: 25 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Brian McKenna

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the revision of this manuscript. This is a marked improvement and I applaud you for making the findings stronger in relation to the South African context and the challenges faced by clinicians in the prisons concerned.

My suggestions are now minor:-

12. References required on p. 5 at the end of the sentences on line 102, line 111 and line 115.

13. It is "each of whom.." on p.8, line 181.

14. And again on p.9, line 184.

15. Replace "medical sisters" with "medical nurses" on p. 9, line 187.

16. Independent analysis does not "triangulate the findings". Please remove this reference on p.9, line 203.

17. On p. 12, line 254 the tense needs to be changed from "are" to "were".

18. On p.17, line 379, clarification is requirement of what was actually added by Sue.

19. The sub-heading on "Anxiety, impotence, sadness and hopelessness )pp. 18-19, lines 398-430) consists of almost all quotes. This section needs to be re-written to reflect a balance between author narrative and quotes.

20. P.20, line 453 change the tense of "draw" to "drew".

21. P.23, lines 507-508, the sentence beginning "A context ..." needs to be rewritten to provide greater clarity.

22. P.23, lines 512-514, remove the phrase in the brackets.

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?**
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Unable to assess

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Yes

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Not relevant to this manuscript

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