Reviewer’s report

Title: Health care providers’ and mothers’ perceptions about the medicalization of female genital mutilation or cutting in Egypt: A cross-sectional qualitative study

Version: 0 Date: 22 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Samuel Kimani

Reviewer's report:

Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

The authors report qualitative study based on Health care providers’ and mothers' perceptions about the medicalization of female genital mutilation or cutting in Egypt: A cross-sectional qualitative study. This paper has critical new findings, reads well and I am sure it is important in influencing and informing development of interventions to prevent FGM/C that is performed by health care providers (Medicalisation) in Egypt. Nonetheless I have some comments and remarks as follows;

Generally, the manuscript need a bit of refining and edits.

It will be helpful to substitute the subtitle "background" with introduction

Page 2, line 10: "FGM/C is increasingly carried out by health care providers" add (medicalization) at the end of the statement.

Page 2, Line 10-12: "The World Health Organization (WHO) defines medicalization as "the situation in which FGM/C is practiced by any category of healthcare provider, whether in a public or a private clinic, at home or elsewhere". Include the reference for WHO (WHO 2010).

Page 2, Line 14-16: "Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) data show that medicalization has increased particularly in Egypt, Sudan, Kenya, Nigeria, Guinea, Yemen and, more recently, in Indonesia (Serour 2013)". Include the following references (Shell-Duncan et al 2017, and Kimani and Shell-Duncan 2018) who have previously documented the data in their articles

Within the introduction, it would be helpful to include a paragraph on prevalence of FGM in Egypt, age of cutting, type of cutting and who cuts the girls. This will help in drawing conclusions regarding the practice.

What was the ethical consideration involving the clients/mothers?

Please include a paragraph on limitations of the study
In general, I recommend the manuscript be edited to improve it.

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.

Unable to assess

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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