**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Current care for victims of sexual violence and future Sexual Assault Care Centres in Belgium: The perspective of victims.

**Version: 0 Date: 06 Jan 2019**

**Reviewer:** Patrick Chariot

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IHHR-D-18-00156

The revised manuscript has improved. A numbers of issues still need to be addressed before the manuscript could be considered suitable for publication. This includes some major issues raised in my initial review that the authors seemingly did not address

Abstract

1. Syntax: 'After signing (...), this study was set up'

2. Conclusion: Claiming that 'It is time for Belgium to accept its responsibility (…)’ may be reasonable. It cannot be the conclusion of the study. The entire conclusion should be rephrased and appear as drawn from the data presented, not as general considerations unrelated to the results presented.

Introduction (Hypothesis)

3. l. 134 'If requested, the victim can press charges (…). This sentence is unclear and should be rephrased. Requested by whom ?

4. l. 137. The authors should be more explicit regarding the care given in the SACC. In the common acception of the word, all victims should receive care, whether or not medications are prescribed

5. L.143-144. A small study involving only 16 subjects cannot be easily considered as an example for other countries. This sentence should be deleted.

6. L. 168 The authors mention the participation of only 2 so-called 'acute victims' over seven months, which seems remarkably low and suggests that the procedure was inadequate. How many individuals (>16) who reported a sexual assault were received in the two participating hospitals over the study period? This information needs to be provided to the reader.
7. L. 253 The authors refer to the legal prescription time in Belgium in November 2011. The study was conducted in 2016 and we are in 2019. The information should be updated.

8. L. 471 The phrasing, albeit modified, is still not satisfactory. Which question do the authors refer to?

Research limitations

9. l. 599. This part needs to be completed. The number of participants is said to be 'as expected' in qualitative research. However, the patient recruitment procedure is still unclear to me. How many patients were received during the study period who satisfied inclusion and exclusion criteria? How were the 16 patients selected from them? What was the inclusion rate? That disclosure is low among victims of sexual violence is well known but this cannot be a adequate comment of an inclusion rate in the present study.

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.

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:

Acceptable
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None

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