Author's response to reviews

Title: Male Reproductive Health Challenges: Appraisal of Wives' Coping Strategies

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Author’s response to reviews:

General

All the changes made are highlighted in red colour. Cognitive and behavioural coping models from the ‘Way of coping theory’ were adapted to the study. The use of RATS Check List has enhanced a comprehensive logical presentation of the study. Other specific adjustment/corrections made are indicated below:

Specific Response to Reviewers Comments

General comment

Grammar

➢ There are a lot of improvement on the grammatical presentation in the manuscript now. So far, there are no All confusing terms have been simplified or removed where necessary

Referencing

The BMC instruction for authors Appendix B was followed in the preparation of the manuscript and the citations
ABSTRACT

Objective

Revised as advised by the Reviewer

Methods

Adjusted as advised by the Reviewer – The women were recruited from a quantitative couple-study where the men have experienced any sexual health problems

MAIN TEXT

Introduction

Page 2, line 4, STIs now written in full

Page line 25, authors’ assumption have been removed.

All errors pointed out in Line 18, 51, 54 and the statement earlier made in line 58 have been corrected

Page 3-16 of the last submission which referred to citations has been handled perfectly by BMC referencing style that we now used.

Other errors in Line 37 (incidences) and Line 49 (can) have been corrected using the suggested words accordingly. Line 51-53 now reads: “The thrust of the paper is to provide systematic evidences of how the wife could cope where the husbands have reproductive health challenges”.

Methods and Materials

A section on the study design has been included.

RATS check list was adopted and duly followed in addition with the ‘Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative research (COREQ)’ which was used as a guide in the presentation of important aspects of the research.

Research location

The name of the author institution has now been included
Recruitment of participants

Similarly, under this section, the actual name of the authors’ institution has been included as advised by the reviewers.

Data Collection

The unclear portion/lines have been clarified:

Only two FGDs were possible per state and participants ranged from 8 to 12 in each of the focus group discussion. For each of the age group (15-34 and 35-50), only two FGD were held. Overall, four FGDs were organised. The participants were segregated into two age groups so as to have insight into whether there are variations in coping mechanisms between the younger and older women.

The word ‘average’ has been substituted with ‘ranged’

Page 5, line 5. Removed to avoid repetition

Page 5, line 10-11: adjusted to read: -- Pidgin English was also used intermittently by some participants.

Line 25 has been revised.

Explanation why participants were classified into two age groups indicated as follows: The participants were segregated into two age groups so as to have insight into whether there are variations in coping mechanisms between the younger and older women (other details in Page 6).

Reason for conducting only 4 FGD and justification for ending data collection now indicated as follows (other detail in Page 6):

In the first instance, only limited number of invitees turned up for the discussion. Also, the participants were volunteers and no incentive was provided due to limited funding. In addition, for each FGD, the discussion continued until little or no new information was coming forth, notwithstanding that each of the first group was more vibrant while the next group was a little less. Succinctly put, the sampling continued until theoretical saturation was reached

Data Analysis

Correct citation of Green & Thorogood now cited.

Results
A framework illustrating the primary themes that emerged has been introduced to enhance the flow of the study (Page 8)

The phrase “and the like” removed

Page 6, line 18: All seemingly interpretation in the results have been moved to the discussion section

Page 7, line 4, Koran has been replaced by Quran.

Quotations

Each excerpt from the respondents has been attached to individual participant with their age range in ‘anonymized’ format due to ethical implications. Rather than mentioning name of the particular participant, identity like …’woman (aged 15-34)’ was used. From this edited version, excerpts were attributed to each speaker/participant.

These adjustments cut across all sections of the result presentation.

Discussion

We tried to maintain balance in the presentation in this new revision.

We played down on over-emphasising of the study.

Also, the statement “It is specifically a bold step delving into under-research issue in the traditional African context especially in regions where sexuality discussions are sacred”, has been deleted to avoid over-emphasis of the study.

Most findings were now bench-marked with existing literature on the subject matter.

We tried to use the word “may” in most cases rather than been authoritative on the findings or our suggestions.

Page 10, Line 29, ‘from’ that was erroneously indicated as ‘form’ has been corrected.

Finally, we again appreciate the Reviewers for painstakingly reviewing our manuscript. We however believe this new version would not disappoint them.