**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Effect of Female genital cutting/mutilation; Types I and II on sexual function: case-controlled study

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 14 Jul 2017

**Reviewer:** Tarek Al Hussaini

**Reviewer's report:**

Interesting manuscript tackling a very sensitive issue but it needs some clarifications.

Patients and Methods:

Did these women give their informed consent to be examined or to fill the questionnaire or both?

Is there a unit or clinic for routine check ups at your Hospital !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

How many women have been invited to participate in the study? How many women out of these agreed to participate?

What is the role of the gynecologists in the study if women were recruited from from Dermatology clinics?

I do think that this is an analytical cross sectional study and not a case control study.

Authors did not mention on what basis did they estimate the sample size. Why did they chose 197 in each arm of the study?

In addition, if they manage to recruit 197 women who had FGM/C in a period of six months (duration of the study), it would be very very difficult to recruit the same number of women without FGC/M during the same period. According to the latest EDHS in 2014, 92% have been circumcised. This means that <10% of women did not have FGM. This means that they will need at least 2 years to find this 197 women without FGM.

I think it is better if the authors can put/mention the items of the Items of Female Sexual Function index in the manuscript.

It is not clear if the FSFI was self filled or was interview filled? If it was interview filled, who did the interview?

**Results:**
It is very surprising to find FSD in about 2 thirds (64.5%) of the study population who had no FGM (N. women) compared to 83.8% in the study group. This brings us back to how accurate was the FSFI filled? and did these women actually understand that questionnaire?

It was also surprising not to find a difference between type 1 nad type 2 in FSFI

I urge the authors to review their results that 39% of women with FGN 22.8% of the control have a frequency of intercourse < once per week. The need to check that was this due to absentee of the husband or actually due to FGM. If such women actually do suffer, the male partners have their own needs.

Tests of Significance should be mentioned below figures and tables 1,2.

Discussion and conclusions:

It is quite difficult to withdraw conclusions fro such a very small sample. It is good brain storming study that draws attention to a very sensitive issue.

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An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
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