Reviewer’s report

Title: The prevalence and predictors of domestic violence among pregnant women in southeast Oromia, Ethiopia

Version: 0 Date: 30 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Martín Di Marco

Reviewer’s report:

The paper presents interesting empirical findings regarding domestic violence during pregnancy. This topic is not novel, as there are other papers addressing the same phenomenon in other countries and in Ethiopia as well. Therefore, this study contributes with some more details about this thematic field, without presenting ground-breaking information or a new approach on the situation.

Despite the fact that the paper presents an interesting panorama of the situation, several aspects must be addressed so that the paper has an adequate standard for publication. The main aspects that must be dealt with are related to the grammar and quality of writing, and some missing information that should be present for a better understanding of the study.

The points that follow are just a few examples of the general review I suggest:

* Grammar, style and spelling
  o No short forms in abstract ("it's the violation")
  o The paper has several typos: such as "176-kilo meter away" and extra spaces throughout the entire text.
  o This sentence requires a structural change to make sense: "It's the violation of human right and associated with numerous adverse outcomes for mothers and the offspring"
  o "Husband's alcohol consumption" - husband without capital letter
  o "husband history of arrest" - husband's
  o Rephrase: "The findings suggest screening for domestic violence among pregnant women visiting antenatal care clinic and appropriate intervention, and it's also better to integrate health education program on domestic with a maternal health program"
Rephrase: "Domestic violence (DV) in this study defined as physical, sexual, psychological or emotional violence that are inflicted on a pregnant woman by a family member"

No parenthesis inside other parenthesis: (i.e. former partner))

"They are also associated with" - if this "they" refers to DV it should be "it"

Spelling mistakes: "They are also associated with series adverse health outcome for the affected women as well as their offspring's" - outcomes in plural, offspring should be singular.

"Oromia regional state of health bureau" requires capital letters

The word "means" is repeated in the section Data Analysis

"specialized hospital and UOG were approved" --- delete "were"

* Content

If the main occupation that was found to be significantly associated with domestic violence is farmer, that should be stressed in the results of the abstract (since no other occupation was associated)

This is crucial for the literature review:

This required further examination or deception - "Additionally, we measured the DV by asking the participants the structured questionnaire which was used in previous studies in Ethiopia"

The paper is intrinsically descriptive, and addresses two aspects (prevalence and associated factors) of DV. However, remarks must be made regarding the interpretation of the analysis. Otherwise the empirical findings must be interested in a culpabilisation of women, of poor population. This does not mean that the entire analysis should be changed, but that some discussions could be added according to the literature review.

It would be relevant to specify how the participating women were actually contacted and the ethical aspects considered in the study, as it deals with sensitive information and experiences. Was there any advice offered to the participating women who reported DV?
Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal