Reviewer’s report

Title: Psychosocial Support for Parents of Extremely Preterm Infants in Neonatal Intensive Care: A Qualitative Interview Study

Version: 1 Date: 21 May 2019

Reviewer: Margarida Custódio

Reviewer's report:

I begin by congratulating the authors for the good work done in this second version. In general, it is more explicit, clear and concise.

Despite your effort I think you can go further in reducing your paper by being even more focused, summarizing and integrating information.

One or two aspects need clarification
Please consider the comments below

Method

Line 173-180 - you explain that Follow-up questions were adapted to each participant with a focus on parents’ experience of their child's stay at the NICU, emotional issues, the sources of psychological support that had been available to them and their views on its extent and quality.

You include some examples of the questions in the interview. Where these questions used for all participants or just for some (as there were adapted)?

Did you ask parents about their needs for psychological support or deduced those needs from the verbatim about their experiences and emotions? Or from their responses about "sources of psychological support".

Data analysis

Line 194 ,195 - you wrote "Thematization focused on data concerning parents' descriptions of their needs of psychological support from the NICU and its staff".
I wonder how you captured parent's description of their needs. Did they describe them?

Results

In this version your results are much better structured. Congratulations!!!
However,

- In the first Theme: - Emotional Support

Some confusion remains about "parental needs"; "parental preferences"; "what parents value in their relation with the staff"; "parental negative evaluation". Please consider clarifying considering your aim (1) parental needs and (2) how staff as meet these needs

The subtheme: Unclear roles of the various professions is to extensive, descriptive and even repetitive. Please consider reducing it by integrating some of the results.

Discussion and Conclusions

In this version there is an important effort to reduce discussion. Despite this effort the discussion remains too long. Please consider summarizing and not being so extensive in the topic Nurses' need of support and adequate working conditions, as it not the aim of your 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:

Needs some language corrections before being published
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