

Review of: ""There Are Challenging Cases for Us": A Qualitative Study of Cypriot Midwives' Experiences Investigating Incidents of Intimate Partner Violence During Pregnancy"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Author,

Thank you for giving me the chance to review this manuscript.

I have completed the review of your manuscript, and a summary is appended below.

Title:

"There Are Challenging Cases for Us": A Qualitative Study of Cypriot Midwives' Experiences Investigating Incidents of Intimate Partner Violence During Pregnancy" is too long.

It would be better to shorten it and yet maintain the same meaning. For example:

"Challenging Cases: Cypriot Midwives' Experiences with Incidents of Intimate Partner Violence During Pregnancy"

Methods:

- The selection of 15 midwives appears to be a small sample size. Although mentioned in the limitations of the study, please provide the total number of midwives (both in the public and private sectors) in Cyprus and explain the rationale for recruiting only 15 participants. Additionally, comparing this number with studies from countries with different population sizes and demographics may not be sufficient; consider offering a more detailed justification specific to the context of your study.
- "had participated in the educational program - STOIPV on intimate partner violence during pregnancy organized by the research team of the Cyprus University of Technology in 2021." Why is this one of the selection criteria?
- I was expecting more questions about the details of IPV. For example: in what trimester was IPV mostly reported, the approximate percentage of cases, types of injuries, morbidity, and mortality from the injuries, etc. Why is this not included?

Demographics:

- Table 2 can be removed, as the information is already effectively presented in the text.

Results:

Major issues:

- When reporting the results within the themes and sub-themes, the information provided was too general. Although this is a qualitative study, it would be helpful to include approximate percentages or at least the number of midwives who experienced specific situations. This additional detail would enable readers to better understand the severity of the experiences and allow for a clearer comparison between the public and private sectors.
- **Ambiguous procedures for management:** You just mention here that the management was different. You did not even mention or discuss later the common management used, as this is an important part of the aim of the study, as midwives investigate and manage patients.
- Did the midwives follow up with patients? If yes, how did they do regarding morbidity and mortality?

Discussion:

- As you mentioned, interviewing midwives from both private and public sectors across different locations in Cyprus is an advantage. However, you did not discuss or compare the differences in experiences that emerged from the study.
- To improve the clarity and impact of your recommendations, consider adding a separate section with the heading "Recommendations" that is distinct from the conclusion. This will allow you to highlight your suggestions more effectively and ensure they are not overlooked.
- In the abstract, it is stated: "The midwives themselves choose how to manage the incidents involving pregnant women. This study aims to gain insight into the lived experiences of midwives who investigate incidents of intimate partner violence (IPV) during pregnancy." However, it is unclear how midwives are involved in both the management and investigation of IPV. What are the legal frameworks in Cyprus regarding this? Additionally, how does the management of IPV during pregnancy differ from the care of a typical pregnant woman? Please address these points in your discussion.