

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Reliability and validity of the pregnancy sexual response inventory (PSRI)

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 16 February 2009

**Reviewer:** Maria José Osis

### **Reviewer's report:**

The question to be answered by the article is not clearly presented in the Abstract, Background and Methods. After reading the entire text, I concluded that the article presents results of a study that aimed to design and validate a questionnaire to assess changes in sexuality of pregnant women throughout pregnancy.

The Methods section is very unclear and confusing. Initially, the authors refer they carried out a cross-sectional study, but they not present the objective of this study. After, they describe methodological procedures regarding to design and evaluate reliability and validity of a new questionnaire - PSRI (the name of the questionnaire in full is only mentioned in the Abstract and in the Discussion section). The authors refer 5 phases in the development of this questionnaire, however the description of these phases are very confusing, and there are no sufficient details provided to replicate the work. For example, the authors state that 105 pregnant women were the study subjects, but different groups participated in each study phase, which is not clearly described in this article section.

The authors refer that the new data collection instrument that they developed is a semi-structured questionnaire. I did not understand this statement as all questions are open-ended.

Authors mention that they used t-test to evaluate the questionnaire reproducibility, but they do not show results of this analysis in this paper.

Discussion is not well structured, and the reader has the feeling that it is a set of text fragments that the authors put together without a logical link between them. I did not understand what means "Given the memory loss that many pregnant women experience..." (Discussion, third paragraph). Conclusions are not corresponding to the results which were presented and discussed.

The title mistakenly suggests that the paper focus on a validation of preexistent questionnaire. Nevertheless, this paper purposes to describe the designing and validation of a new questionnaire in Portuguese language for evaluating sexuality and sexual activity during pregnancy. In the Abstract, the authors do not present the paper objective, the Methods description is confusing and incomplete, and Conclusions do not correspond to the presented results.

In conclusion, I think it is necessary to make a complete revision of the article,

starting by defining clearly what the question the authors aim to answer is. It is essential to more accurately describe the methodological procedures used in developing the study.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests