

A Qualitative Examination of the Transition to Motherhood among Women with Histories of Childhood Trauma

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The manuscript could benefit from more detailed demographic information about the participants, such as socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or geographic location. This detail would help in understanding the external validity of the study and assessing whether the findings can be generalized to other populations.

Clarify at what point in the interviews data saturation was reached. Include specific indicators or examples that led to the determination that no new information was emerging, which will strengthen the reliability of the qualitative analysis.

Provide a more detailed description of the interview guide in the appendix or as supplementary material. Including specific questions asked during the interviews would help in replicating the study and understanding the scope of the data collected.

While thematic analysis is described, the process of moving from codes to themes needs to be more transparent. Detail the decision-making process, possibly including a flowchart or table, which shows how initial codes were grouped into themes.

Increase the number of direct quotes from participants in the results section to enrich the narrative and provide evidence for the themes identified. This would also enhance the authenticity and depth of the qualitative analysis.

Explore and discuss any contradictory or unique cases that do not fit the general patterns identified in the thematic analysis. Addressing these can provide a more nuanced understanding of the data.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Define and clarify key terms used throughout the paper, such as "mentalization", "parental attunement", and "transgenerational transmission". Consistent use of terms is crucial for readability and accuracy.

Discuss any potential biases in the study methodology, such as interviewer bias or selection bias. Acknowledging these limitations and suggesting ways they could be mitigated in future research will enhance the credibility of the study.

Tie the findings back to theoretical frameworks discussed in the literature review more explicitly. Demonstrating how the data support or challenge existing theories can enrich the theoretical contributions of the study.

Ensure consistency in the formatting of tables, figures, and supplementary materials. Consistency in presentation aids in the reader's understanding and retention of information.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.