



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Psychiatry

**Manuscript NO:** 64158

**Title:** The role of perceived family support in psychological distress for pregnant women during the COVID-19 pandemic in China

**Reviewer's code:** 05526628

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Italy

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

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**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-04-20 13:00

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-04-20 13:23

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This study evaluated the impact of perceived family support on psychological distress in pregnant women during the COVID-19 pandemic. Results highlighted the association between psychological distress and family support. The study is nicely written and adds to the literature. Statistical analyses were appropriately performed and results are discussed in the light of the evidences available in the field. I have some minor points to improve the quality of the manuscript. Introduction: Authors correctly mentioned that the Covid-19 pandemic is associated with increased risk for mental problems. Please consider mentioning that Covid-19 was associated with increased psychological distress not only in the general population (Moccia et al, Int J Environ Res Public Health, 2020; PMID: 33396363) but also in clinical samples (Di Nicola et al, Psychoneuroendocrinology 2020, PMID: 32956989). Methods: Are statistical analyses corrected for age? If not, authors should mention a possible influence of age as limitation in the limitation section. Discussion: There is some information available on family origin in this sample? It could be interesting to evaluate the relationship between current/past perceived family support and psychological distress related to Covid-19. Pertaining to this, a very recent study assessed the relationship between psychological distress related to Covid-19 and childhood trauma, founding that childhood trauma was associated with increased vulnerability to the stressful effect of the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak. Please consider to discuss these results in the light of the present study. (Janiri et al, Aust N Z J Psychiatry, 2021 PMID: 33715469). This could be particularly important to address because childhood trauma is specifically associated with the burden of mental health, particularly mood disorders, which are the most frequent disorders in pregnant women. (Please consider citing Janiri et al, Eur Psychiatry. 2018, PMID: 29879623).