

## PEER REVIEW HISTORY

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### ARTICLE DETAILS

<b>TITLE (PROVISIONAL)</b>	Burnout among obstetricians and pediatricians: A cross-sectional study from China
<b>AUTHORS</b>	ye, junying; Wang, Huan; Wu, Hao; Ye, Liaosha; Li, Qi; Ma, Xiang-yu; Yu, Xiaodong; Zhang, Hua; Luo, Xu

### VERSION 1 – REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Razvan Socolov University of Medicine and Pharmacy Gr T Popa Iasi, Romania
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	30-May-2018

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	The article is on an interesting topic. Unfortunately, the introduction is too exhaustive, and not clearly defining the purpose and implications of the study. The material and methods section (renamed by authors) is not well presented. The inclusion criteria are not clearly mentioned, and also if there were any exclusion criteria. The justification of choosing 2 different specialties, with different workload and risks is also not clear and should be explained.
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<b>REVIEWER</b>	ANA KATHERINE GONÇALVES UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO GRANDE DO NORTE BRAZIL
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	09-Jun-2018

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	<p>We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with this prestigious journal reviewing the article entitled “Burnout among obstetricians and pediatricians: A cross-sectional study from China.” This study sought to evaluate occupational burnout among the obstetricians and pediatricians in maternity hospitals who 77 represent a key part of China’s occupational burnout among the obstetricians and pediatricians in maternity hospitals who 77 represent a key part of China’s.</p> <p>After reading the article and evaluating the paper personally, we feel that despite the interesting subject there is some sloppy proofreading of the manuscript;</p> <p>Abstract: The purpose is not very clear. It could be shortened.</p> <p>Keywords: It must be revised. Chinese health care system and obstetricians and pediatricians are not keywords</p> <p>Introduction: China is a great country with very interesting characteristics, however, the introduction is directed to the Chinese health system, which hinders the generalization of the results, damaging the external validity of the study</p> <p>It is necessary to point out that Burnout syndrome (BS) is a worldwide phenomenon that affects health professionals from all over the world. Thus, the introduction could focus more on the problem (BS) and less on social and political issues of the country.</p> <p>Methods: The traditional Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI)</p>
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	<p>encompasses three dimensions (factors) of burnout: emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and low personal accomplishment at work. The latter has been replaced by the still-unknown Maslach Burnout Inventory-General Survey (MBI-GS ).</p> <p>The MBI-GS has three subscales that parallel the MBI: exhaustion, cynicism, and professional efficacy. The subscale that differs to the greatest extent from the original MBI is cynicism instead of depersonalization. Whereas depersonalization refers to distancing oneself emotionally from service recipients and to the development of cynical attitudes toward them, cynicism refers to distancing oneself from work itself and to the development of negative attitudes toward work in general. What was the purpose of this exchange? If the authors choose to remain with the Maslach Burnout Inventory-General Survey (MBI-GS), I suggest a better explanation of this new inventory. Additionally, we still suggest replacing depersonalization by cynicism and sense of achievement by professional efficacy, In order to make for the acronyms for CY and PE.</p> <p>Tables: Table 1 is unnecessary</p> <p>Conclusion: overall the next needs a language review. It is understandable but confusing and can be shortened as well.</p>
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### VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

#### Reviewer 1

Comment 1: The article is on an interesting topic. Unfortunately, the introduction is too exhaustive, and not clearly defining the purpose and implications of the study.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer's kind advice. We have revised the introduction to highlight the purpose and significance of the study: China's Maternal and Child Health Care Hospital has played an important role in the prevention and health care of women and children, but the increasing workload (doctors' shortage, full implementation of the second child policy) has limited its development and may lead to serious job burnout. However, there are few related studies. Our study reveals the status quo and several important influencing factors of occupational burnout of pediatricians and obstetricians in these hospitals, and puts forward some suggestions. And the detailed revision can be found in Line 57-102, Page3-5.

Comment 2: The material and methods section (renamed by authors) is not well presented. The inclusion criteria are not clearly mentioned, and also if there were any exclusion criteria.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer's kind advice. We revised the materials and methods, and improved the inclusion and exclusion criteria. and the detailed revision can be found in Line 108-121, Page5.

Comment 3: The justification of choosing 2 different specialties, with different workload and risks is also not clear and should be explained.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer's kind advice. Departments are divided into obstetrics and pediatrics, because these two departments are the most important ones in Chinese maternal and child health care hospitals, with the beds accounting for more than 90% of the total number. The revised details can be found in Line 141-143, page6 and Line 149-152, page7.

#### Reviewer 2

Comment 1: Abstract: The purpose is not very clear. It could be shortened.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer's kind advice. The purpose is: Maternal and child health care centers play an important role in the health maintenance of Chinese women and children, but overburdened work poses a serious risk of job burnout for doctors. However, few studies have examined occupational burnout among doctors employed in these hospitals. This research addresses

the gap in the literature”.

Comment 2:Keywords: It must be revised. Chinese health care system and obstetricians and pediatricians are not keywords

Response: Thanks for the reviewer’s kind advice.we have revised the Keywords, The revised details can be found in Line 39-40, page1.

Comment 3:Introduction: China is a great country with very interesting characteristics, however, the introduction is directed to the Chinese health system, which hinders the generalization of the results, damaging the external validity of the study. It is necessary to point out that Burnout syndrome (BS) is a worldwide phenomenon that affects health professionals from all over the world. Thus, the introduction could focus more on the problem (BS) and less on social and political issues of the country.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer’s kind advice. the Strengths of our study is the relatively new research topic: the job burnout of doctors in provincial maternal and child health care hospitals in China has scarcely been the key focus; the influences of China's comprehensive two-child policy on the burnout among obstetricians and pediatricians also opens up a new area of research. And we have revised the introduction to focus more on the problem (BS). the detailed revision can be found in Line 57-102, Page3-5.

Comment 4:

Methods: The traditional Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) encompasses three dimensions (factors) of burnout: emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and low personal accomplishment at work. The latter has been replaced by the still-unknown Maslach Burnout Inventory-General Survey (MBI-GS ). The MBI-GS has three subscales that parallel the MBI: exhaustion, cynicism, and professional efficacy. The subscale that differs to the greatest extent from the original MBI is cynicism instead of depersonalization. Whereas depersonalization refers to distancing oneself emotionally from service recipients and to the development of cynical attitudes toward them, cynicism refers to distancing oneself from work itself and to the development of negative attitudes toward work in general. What was the purpose of this exchange? If the authors choose to remain with the Maslach Burnout Inventory-General Survey (MBI-GS), I suggest a better explanation of this new inventory. Additionally, we still suggest replacing depersonalization by cynicism and sense of achievement by professional efficacy, In order to make for the acronyms for CY and PE.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer’s kind advice. We have replaced depersonalization by cynicism and sense of achievement by professional efficacy. And we add a explanation of the new inventory. the detailed revision can be found in Line 173-176, Page8.

Comment 5:Tables: Table 1 is unnecessary

Response: Thanks for the reviewer’s kind advice.The subjects’ distribution by demographics and employment situations is illustrated in Table 1. The first paragraph of the result is only an overview of Table 1, does not show all the information.so we want the Table 1 remained.

Comment 6:Conclusion: overall the next needs a language review. It is understandable but confusing and can be shortened as well.

Response: we have improved the quality of English throughout the manuscript, with the help of a native speaking colleague.

#### VERSION 2 – REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	socolov razvan University of Medicine and Pharmacy Gr T Popa Iasi Romania
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	16-Nov-2018

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	1. questions in the previous review were adressed 2. Limitations and inclusion criteria are better defined
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<b>REVIEWER</b>	ANA KATHERINE GONCALVES The Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte Country: Brazil
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	03-Nov-2018

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	Burnout Syndrome is a very important issue once that Work-related stress among healthcare professionals has become a serious health problem for workers and the world economy
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