

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Paediatrics Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Parental characteristics and functional constipation in children: a cross-sectional cohort study
AUTHORS	Vriesman, Mana; Peeters, Babette; Koppen, Ilan; van Dijk, Marieke; Grootenhuis, Martha; Di Lorenzo, Carlo; Benninga, Marc

VERSION 1 - REVIEW

REVIEWER	Diaconescu, Smaranda Professor of Pediatrics "Titu Maiorescu" University Bucharest Romania Competing interests: None
REVIEW RETURNED	11-Jul-2017

GENERAL COMMENTS	The study is interesting and, as you mentioned, the research is still limited However, I feel that the references should be improved with some newer titles.
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REVIEWER	Gordon, Morris UCLAN, UK Competing interests: Nil
REVIEW RETURNED	24-Aug-2017

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This is an excellent piece. Given the nature of the journal, with both space and priority less important and rigour and interest the key, this piece fits the bill. It is long, but reads well and given this I wouldn't advise any reduction.</p> <p>There is one area needing minor revision - the implications for future research - this is only briefly mentioned. This needs far more attention and specific advice. What studies are needed? What specific questions to clarify the potential cause and impact of these findings?</p> <p>Other than this, a truly excellent piece</p>
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer: 1

The study is interesting and, as you mentioned, the research is still limited. However, I feel that the references should be improved with some newer titles.

We would like to thank the reviewer for these comments. We agree with the reviewer and added three more recent references:

- New reference 7 (page 5): van Dijk M, Benninga MA, Grootenhuys MA, Last BF. Prevalence and associated clinical characteristics of behavior problems in constipated children. *Pediatrics*. 2010;125(2):309-317. doi:10.1542/peds.2008-3055.
- New reference 27 (page 14): Pakenham KI, Cox S. The Effects of Parental Illness and Other Ill Family Members on the Adjustment of Children. *Ann Behav Med*. 2014;48(3):424-437. doi:10.1007/s12160-014-9622-y.
- New reference 29 (page 14): Gaertner BM, Spinrad TL, Eisenberg N, Greiving KA. Parental childrearing attitudes as correlates of father involvement during infancy. *J Marriage Fam*. 2007;69(4):962-976. doi:10.1111/j.1741-3737.2007.00424.x.

Reviewer: 2

This is an excellent piece. Given the nature of the journal, with both space and priority less important and rigour and interest the key, this piece fits the bill. It is long, but reads well and given this I wouldn't advise any reduction. There is one area needing minor revision - the implications for future research - this is only briefly mentioned. This needs far more attention and specific advice. What studies are needed? What specific questions to clarify the potential cause and impact of these findings?

Other than this, a truly excellent piece

We thank the reviewer for these kind words. We agree with the reviewer and in answer to the reviewer's comment on implications for future research, we have given more specific advice in the discussion (page 15, last paragraph).