Reviewer's report

Title: A survey of the management of urinary tract infection in children in primary care

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Reviewer: Tej Mattoo

Reviewer's report:

The study by Kennedy et al, involves a survey of general practitioners in following the recently established NICE guidelines in the management of urinary tract infection in children. It is well written, easy to understand, and very focused. The study does not deal with the issue of any controversy surrounding the guidelines itself, which, to me makes sense. The major limitations with this study are 1) the number of respondents included in the study, 2) authors not emphasizing enough that the study is not about how well the practitioners are managing UTI in children, but how much do they follow NICE guidelines in the management of such children, and 3) authors understanding that the NICE guidelines are controversial though the study is not meant to evaluate the guidelines itself. None the less, the observations made in the study are interesting and authors have done a good job in discussing these observations in the context of NICE guidelines.

Some specific suggestions

1. Change title to indicate that the survey relates to GP’s understanding of NICE guidelines in the management of UTI in children. You could say something like “General practitioners and the NICE guidelines” or something like that?
2. Methods: Define family doctors and GP registrars because most people outside UK would not know what that means?
3. Diagnosis: Poor growth is not a risk factor for UTI, could result from recurrent UTI
4. Discussion: need to make clear that this study is not about how family doctors manage UTI (see last sentence on page 11, first sentence of Conclusion) but how much they practice the NICE guidelines.
5. Page 3, 2nd line on “Background”: delete “had”

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests