Reviewer's report

Title: Rationale, Design and Results of the First Screening Round of a Comprehensive, Register-based, Chlamydia Screening Implementation Programme in the Netherlands

Version: 1 Date: 19 July 2010

Reviewer: Loretta Brabin

Reviewer's report:

The study is important, being designed to evaluate the potential effectiveness of screening in a programmatic setting and over a longer period of time than most research studies. The methods, for the most part, are well described and while the research will not be able to answer all the questions that arise when considering a national screening programme, it will provide a great deal of useful data.

Minor essential revisions
1. State whether ct testing is also available in other clinical/non-clinical settings in addition to the web-based programme.
2. Clarify whether the information on the rationale for ct testing provided on the web-site has been developed/evaluated with relevant age/sex groups.
3. State whether Sexual Health clinics retest individuals who present for treatment with their on-line diagnosis.
4. What is the evidence that people from ethnic minorities have the same level of access to the internet?
5. How are non-responders contacted for follow-up (re ethical considerations)
6. What data are collected at six months to distinguish re-infection and treatment failures
7. The 16-19 year old females in Limburg did not demonstrate high ct positivity compared to either males of the same age or compared to older age groups as seen in the two city groups (and expected from the literature). Could the selective screening assessment be masking the real trend?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.