Reviewer’s report

Title: Awareness, Attitudes, and Practices Related to the Swine Influenza Pandemic among the Saudi Public

Version: 1 Date: 17 November 2009

Reviewer: Holly Seale

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions

Abstract
1. Please add numerator/denominator information to results
2. Please be consistent with decimal places

Background
1. Spelling mistake- need to update “educational” in the following line: Understanding the perception of the public….. educational programs…..

Methods
1. When was the study conducted?
2. Was there any exclusion to participation i.e. language, living in country?

Results
1. How many people were approached in total? How many people were excluded?
2. It would be interesting to present the demographic information in a table
3. Was the study population representative of the Saudi population?
4. Need to add numerator/denominator information
5. Did age or sex have an impact on awareness? Did you measure level of education? As this would impact on these scores

Discussion
1. The discussion needs to be updated to include the recent pandemic (H1N1) 2009 papers including
   • Eastwood, K., et al., Acceptance of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza vaccination by the Australian public. MJA, 2009. eMJA Rapid Online Publication – 4 November 2009
   • Seale, H., et al., The community’s attitude towards swine flu and pandemic influenza. MJA, 2009. 191: p. 267-269

2. The authors need to incorporate their results into the discussion more.

Tables

1. The tables need reformatting- the information needs breaking into subsections and given clear headings. I would encourage the authors to review tables published in the journal and use them as a template. Also- the results need ranking.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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'