Reviewer's report

Title: Patient acceptance of universal screening for hepatitis C virus infection

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Reviewer: Juergen Rockstroh

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Major Compulsory Revisions

This study on patient acceptance of universal screening for hepatitis C virus infection is very timely and initiates or intensifies a discussion of how to best perform HCV screening now that treatment success rates for HCV infected patients is expected to increase substantially within the next years making this a much more HIV-like scenario where improvements of therapy and subsequent disease outcome have led to changes in screening patterns. The main limitation is that only one region (Seattle) and only a public hospital setting was tested with a potential bias in the results obtained. The high rate of transfusions (20%) and iv drug use (12%) may make this patient group more accepting of an HCV screening test. Moreover in the introduction it is pointed out that 70% of HCV infections are unknown but over 50% of the participating subjects had already been screened for HCV clearly suggesting a bias towards a higher test acceptance rate. Therefore I would suggest performing the same questionnaire also in a different medical setting (other than public hospital).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.