Reviewer's report

Title: Did the pandemic have an impact on influenza vaccination attitude? A survey among health care workers

Version: 1 Date: 31 August 2010

Reviewer: Helen Maltezou

Reviewer's report:

The paper is too long (especially the discussion), please make it shorter.

Abstract, background, first line: please replace the word notoriously.

Abstract, results, second line: please add the phrase "2009-2010" (correct to: previous 2009-2010 season).

Background, page 4, first line: please delete the phrase "swine flu".

Background, page 4, second paragraph, third line: please replace the word epidemic with the word seasonal. You are advised to use the review article: Nosocomial influenza: NEW CONCEPTS AND practice, Curr Opin Infect Dis (2008, Maltezou), as a referance in this paragraph. You may use it as a referance in the first paragraph of the Conclusions section (page 14).

Methods, page 5, second line: please use Izmir instead of Aegean Region (or vice versa), in order to be compatible with the abstract.

Data managment and statistics; too long (page 6), make it shorter.

Results, page 7: do not use the word "children" for young people up to 24 years old!

Discussion: need to discuss the fact that the facility where the study took place is a large one. There is one published study (J Hosp Infect 2007, Maltezou et al), where it was found that large hospitals tend to have lower rates of vaccination, most probably because of difficulties to organize vaccination campaigns.

It would be better to present within the text (Results section), the results of the Multivariate statistical analysis (in the last paragraph of this section, page 10- at least provide the statistically signifant, odd ratios, and confident intervals).

Discussion, page 10, second paragraph: the rate "22%" refers to intention to get the pandemic vaccine among HCWs, and not to real vaccination.

Discussion, page 11: The sentence presenting the two studies (from US and Greece respectively) is too complecated. Please use two sentences instead.

Discussion, page 11, third paragraph, first sentence: please rephrase the setnence "Hard discussion ...... 2009.", it does not make sense.
Discussion, page 11, last paragraph: Izmir is the most important among the rare cities. What does rare city mean?

Discussion: please discuss the possibility of having a mandatory policy for HCWs vaccination.

Discussion: pages 11 and 12: the discussion is too political. Please use the phrase "negative attitudes" instead of propaganda (page 12). You need to discuss the fact that large hospitals tend to have lower vaccination rates (please see Maltezou. Nosocomial Influenza: new concepts and practice, Curr Opin Infect Dis 2008).

Discussion, page 12, last paragraph: please do not compare statistically insignificant results by ORs!

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare I have no competing interests.