Reviewer's report

Title: An intervention study to improve hand hygiene in the emergency department: getting to the point

Version: 3 Date: 22 May 2013

Reviewer: Trinidad Dierssen Sotos

Reviewer's report:

The authors have made significant changes to improve this paper. I only have some discretionary and minor comments on changes the authors should make.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. - The appendix describing the procedure must be written in the English language
2. – There are some typos throughout the document:
   2.1.- In the methods section, in the paragraph “…a given a error level of 5% and a b error level of [1-b] 20% (power:80%)”, the authors should write: “…a given alfa#error level of 5% and a beta#error level of 20% (power: 80%)”,
   2.2.- In the discussion section, second paragraph, the German word “seite” must be removed.

Discretionary Revisions:
The design used (a prospective tri-phase before/after study) can be useful for generating hypotheses, but not for proving them, thus, the authors should include at the end of the discussion a comment stating that the results should be verified using an experimental study.

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