Reviewer's report

Title: Meningococcal, influenza virus, and hepatitis B virus vaccination coverage level among health care workers in Hajj

Version: 1 Date: 7 May 2007

Reviewer: Robyn Gershon

Reviewer's report:

General

This is a very well written article on a topic of continued interest in the healthcare community. This report on the vaccination history of health care providers working directly with pilgrims in Hajj provides a fascinating glimpse on this topic under unique circumstances. The authors provide very clear information on the compliance rates for vaccination (meningococcal, influenza virus, and hepatitis B) as well as a comprehensive summary of the known barriers to vaccination among health care personnel.

Only a few minor essential editing revisions are noted. Regarding the human subjects, it is usually noted by convention whether the self-administered survey was confidential or anonymous and whether or not institutional review board approval was obtained, perhaps with an exemption.

Thank you for this opportunity to read this interesting and clearly written paper.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Page 1:
Abstract, Results, line 1-2, change to read: “A total of 392 HCWs were studied including 215 (54.8%) nurses and 177 (45.2%) doctors.”
Abstract, Results Section, line 5, replace “of whom” with “with”
Abstract, Results Section, line 5, replace “received” with “receiving”

Page 2:
Introduction, line 3, insert “employee” after “successful”
Introduction, line 9, insert a comma after “Saudi Arabia”

Page 3:
Methods, paragraph 1, line 12, replace “can not” with “cannot”

Page 4:
Methods, Data Collection: Comment: Confidential or anonymous? Human subjects approval relevant? If so, please add a sentence.

Page 5:
Results, paragraph 1, line 3, replace “hundreds” with “hundred”
Results, paragraph 1, line 4, replace “hundreds” with “hundred”

Page 9:
Discussion, paragraph 1, line 6, insert “earlier reports;” after “similar to”
Discussion, paragraph 1, line 7, delete “what was reported as”

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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 declare that I have no competing interests.