Reviewer's report

Title: National guideline recommendations for digital ano-rectal examination as a means for anal cancer screening in HIV positive men who have sex with men: a systematic review

Version: 1 Date: 8 May 2014

Reviewer: Ross Cranston

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-researched, written, and presented article investigating the published recommendations for digital anorectal exam as a method for anal cancer screening. However, as there are ultimately only two articles that fit the authors' search criteria, the manuscript is ultimately very slight, and may be better suited to another format e.g. as an opinion piece.

Suggested edits

Major: The authors need to reference and discuss the following paper by Berry that noted that anal cancer may be diagnosed on DARE before symptoms are present.


Minor:

Background: P1L2. Remove space after (SCC) and ref to be in compliance with other references.
P1L5. Remove s from MSMs here and throughout as it is redundant
P1L7. Remove extra space before ‘Anal’
Results: P3L3: Remove ‘any’

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