Reviewer’s report

Title: Are parents' knowledge and practice regarding immunization related to pediatrics’ immunization compliance? A mixed method study

Version: 1 Date: 25 July 2013

Reviewer: Saifuldeen R Abdulmajeed

Reviewer’s report:

Commentary

In the abstract:

Methods paragraph: the wording June was written wrong to Jun.

The background:

The authors were going through the role of healthcare professionals’ in the role of parents’ knowledge within many paragraphs. I think if the background will be more concise and focused to the question of the article, if they support the background with studies from the surrounding countries since they have some common traditional and ethnical similarities. This study may provide some help if they would like to use it in the background and discussion: “The Knowledge, Attitude and Practice towards Immunizations among Mothers in a Traditional City in the United Arab Emirates” by Roos M. Bernsen et al.

In the Methods:

The first paragraph second statement June was written wrongfully to Jun.

In the Results:

The authors stated that “Scoring of the questions was determined by giving one point (1) for each correct answer and zero (0) for wrong answers or no response (don’t know)”. If it is possible for the author to clarify if they distinguished between parents’ who doesn’t have any information about the question or they were answering based on misleading information or perception.

Discussion:

In the second paragraph, “Many reasons were found for not vaccinating children or not completing the vaccination schedule; firstly, this may have been due to a lack of vaccination information among parents or providers”. What does the author means by the providers? Are they the healthcare professionals? I hope it will be clarified.

In paragraph 5, which starts with although the situation in Iraq till findings. “This could be because of an increase in sources of vaccination and health information represented by television, the internet and other sources.” The words with bold could be changed with the word media.

The sentence “Many restrictions were imposed on the media, especially television and the internet, before 2003, whereas an increase in the number of
international medical and scientific TV channels, and an increase in internet users especially after 2003 are the important causes of the increase in parents' immunization practice and in immunization knowledge”, is that sentence supported by a study? Please mention the reference.

In the paragraph that started with “According to the parents’ answers to questions 15, 16, 17, and 18 some 59.5% of parents…”, media was mentioned twice with two different not clear meaning. While the correct meaning that is mentioned in the oxford dictionaries is the media) [treated as singular or plural] the main means of mass communication (television, radio, and newspapers). So the author can't compare media with television.