Reviewer’s report

Title: What motivates British parents to consent for research? A questionnaire study

Version: 2 Date: 17 January 2007

Reviewer: Christine Grady

Reviewer’s report:

General
Thank you for sending me the revised manuscript to review. I think the additions and revisions nicely fill in some of the details regarding methods, results, and limitations.

I have 2 major comments: 1. I think the first sentence of the discussion significantly overstates the study’s findings. Although the motivation listed by 57% of the parents is a “positive finding”, this was a small group of parents asked about motivation for one particular study. Similarly, other cited studies (e.g. one U.S. study, one French study - see p.8 in particular) should not be described as representing France or the US, but rather single studies to which the current findings can be compared.

2. Some of the new sentences are confusing and hard to read. One illustrative example is found on page 5, 2nd par, “Parents were asked on their agreement or disagreement on whether the theme influenced their decision to participate in the present study or future studies, for example benefit to your own child or benefit to all children in the future”. I think it would be clearer to say something like: “Parents were asked to agree or disagree with a list of reasons that might have influenced their decision to enroll their child in the study, such as benefit to their own child.” Another par that is hard to read is the last par on p. 7.

Minor comments: p. 8, end of first par in discussion should not say “Our recruitment rate…”, but “The RCT recruitment rate…” Need a citation for the statement that extra blood and immunization have been reasons for non enrollment in other studies (p.8) No comment on the parents who felt there had been disadvantages? Or who felt obliged to participate?

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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'