Reviewer's report

Title: University life and pandemic influenza: Attitudes and intended behaviour of staff and students towards pandemic (H1N1) 2009

Version: 1 Date: 23 February 2010

Reviewer: Beate Sander

Reviewer's report:

This study investigates attitudes and intended behaviour of staff and students towards pandemic (H1N1) 2009 at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. This is a timely topic, and of interest to researchers and policy decision-makers concerned with influenza pandemic mitigation strategies as well as planners in similar institutional settings. Van and colleagues should be applauded for getting this solid study underway in time. I have only minor comments.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. The background needs to be updated (all the numbers). It may be useful to add the date when referring to “to date”.
2. Page 3, paragraph 3: The last sentence is redundant by now.

Discretionary Revisions:
1. I would have liked to see more analyses on how attitudes and intended behaviour changes over time, such as presented in figures 1 and 2. This is important information when predicting the possible impact of mitigation strategies.
2. The discussion is a little short on policy implications of the findings.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.