Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparison of risk behaviors and socio-cultural profile of men who have sex with men survey respondents recruited via venues and the internet

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Reviewer: Ilan Meyer

Reviewer’s report:

Ms. No. 1319557165254033 (Comparison of risk behaviors and socio-cultural profile of men who have sex with men survey respondents recruited via venues and the internet)

1. The authors have responded to some of the comments but have not addressed the Editors’ note sufficiently. The paper still needs shortening and better attention to copyediting and language. Significantly, although there are some interesting observations, it is not entirely clear what is the significance of the paper.

2. Since there is no rationale for it, I don’t see the value in the multivariate model (Table 4). All the authors state is “Variables showing significant univariate between-group differences were used as candidate variables in a stepwise multivariate logistic regression model discriminating Group I versus Group V respondents.” But why are the controlled results important? How do they add to the basic information already provided in Tables 1 – 3? Removing Table 4 will improve readability of the paper, as the table does not seem to offer any new insight.

3. Because of the lack of focus or theoretical orientation, the discussion seems perfunctory, mostly repeating what was reported in the results. The commentary on the results often seem to state the obvious, offering little to the results. As in “It is possible that venue-goers meet many potential sex partners face-to-face in bars and saunas etc. and may end up having sex with some of them eventually, whilst internet-based sex networks are often constructed in a virtual reality.”

4. An important study limitation is that the Internet and Venue samples used different questionnaire modalities (face-to-face vs. internet).

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

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