Reviewer's report

Title: Compliance with herpes zoster vaccination in young, adult and older people in two regions of Italy

Version: 1 Date: 10 October 2009

Reviewer: Hester E de Melker

Reviewer's report:

I believe the authors tried to give information on a relevant aspect, i.e. what is the perception of vzw and what will be the acceptance of HZ vaccination. A HZ vaccin is available and the willingness to vaccinate and potential barriers are relevant to evaluate. However, the paper is not clearly written.

The aim of the study is not clearly formulated (as well as the methods and results); i.e. in the background it is written in the last sentence that a prevalence study has been conducted. No information is given what kind of information is collected although probably the authors mean that information on knowledge and perception was collected.

Furthermore in the method and result section insufficient information is given on what data has been collected and the description of the results are also not clear. For example what does the authors mean with the sentence: In particular, about the knowledge of HZ in respect to the acceptance of the vaccination, 1965 individuals interviewed claimed theri availability towards this type of prevention. What does the OR represent.

It seems that the authors intended to compare the acceptance of vaccination between those who had knowledge on the disease (as a result of their personal experience with the disease?) and those who had no knowledge. However, only information seem to be given on the individuals who accept vaccination?

Overall a large part of the paper is very unclear.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests