Reviewer's report

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

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Reviewer: LAURENT COUDEVILLE

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Major compulsory revisions

The authors addressed in this manuscript an interesting topic: the acceptability by the population of a new vaccine. As pointed out by the authors, the number of scientific publications addressing this topic, and especially for the diseases considered (Varicella and zoster) remains limited. This, in addition to the fact that the results are clearly exposed, make this manuscript an attractive one

This being said, two major criticism can be made:

- The level of detail provided in the results is very limited (1 result table). This come as a surprise knowing that more than 3000 individuals were interviewed face-to-face. The main result is that individuals are ready to be vaccinated but nothing is said on the perception of the severity of this disease, the conditions in which individual would accept to be vaccinated (financial conditions, convenience, perceived risks,...), the relationship between their perception of the disease and their willingness to be vaccinated,...

- The authors do not discuss how their results compare with other studies on a similar topic for HZ, VZV or any other vaccine-preventable disease.

Specific comments:

- Authors should provide results on the representativeness of their sample: comparison with the general population with respect to education level, vaccination status, proportion of subjects having contracted VZV or HZ in the past

- For both diseases, the results reported correspond to only 3 general questions (know the disease, having been affected in the past, ready to be vaccinated or already vaccinated). Authors should therefore state more clearly if only these three questions were asked or if they deliberately chose to focus on the main results.

- Cross-tabulation between disease knowledge, experience of the disease and willingness to be vaccinated would be welcome as well as cross tabulation on answers for varicella and zoster.

- Authors should present, for each subgroup specifically, the proportion knowing the disease, having experienced the disease and immunized or ready to be
immunized

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I am employee of Sanofi Pasteur which does not directly distribute the HZ vaccine in Italy but which is linked to the company commercializing the HZ vaccine in Italy.