Reviewer’s report

Title: Knowledge of Chlamydia trachomatis among men and women approached to participate in community-based screening, Scotland, UK.

Version: 1 Date: 10 August 2010

Reviewer: Emer O’Connell

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential revisions:

1. Chlamydia trachomatis should be in proper format- italics and capital C
2. insert word as follows- invited to complete a self-administered questionnaire and then provide a urine sample for chlamydia testing
3. reference 2 is out of date- published 2001- please update
4. Please provide some detail re settings e.g. education- what level and were all approached in non-clinical context.
5. Who are the interviewees? From what settings? What is their mean age?
6. use of KL as initials does not read well- please alter to a term such as “lead researcher”
7. Knowledge of the clinical features of Chlamydia- the next 2 paragraphs need to be explained more clearly- it is difficult to understand which is considered by authors as incorrect answer. Is “pain in the lower stomach” not considered a symptom by the authors- this might be considered as lower abdominal pain by a lay person and thus would be a correct symptom.
8. re the following sentence “Table 2 shows that for most statements, women’s knowledge was significantly greater: that chlamydia cannot be caught from toilet seats (OR 1.80, 95% CI 1.1-2.92), men can be asymptomatic (OR 1.50, 95% CI 0.96-2.35) the CI interval overlaps 1 thus should not be significant- please clarify
9. please delete “were” in the following “Respondents frequently contextualised their own poor knowledge of chlamydia with their perceptions of the knowledge young people in wider society generally have, thus respondents were attempted to normalise their own poor knowledge
10. “Whilst the inclusion of men in screening has been widely encouraged [29-31], they remain only partially involved and as this study shows that their knowledge persists in being lower than that of women’s, with little changing from work published a decade ago [32, 33], nor the introduction of a national screening programme [22, 34]”…. This statement does not explain if refs 32 & 33 refer to English research where there is a screening programme – if yes then the limitation that this is Scottish research and thus may not be representative of English young people

Major compulsory revisions
1. There is a definite need to detail what information was provided to participants in the information leaflet. What was the basic information provided? Please send a copy of leaflet/attach to this draft article.

**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'