Reviewer’s report

Title: Urine-based testing for Chlamydia trachomatis in young people in a population-based survey in Croatia: Feasibility and prevalence

Version: 2 Date: 24 January 2011

Reviewer: Ingrid Viola Francine van den Broek

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have not added much information on the sample size calculations. They explain that the survey was designed for the opurpose of estimates on sexual behaviour rather than Chlamydia prevalence. They have added a sentence on the behavioral survey in the introduction, but not explained in the methodology section how they come to the sample size.

I have read the answers from the authors, they state: "As our intention was not to collect county-representative data, but only to have all the counties included in the survey (to achieve national representation), the final size of our sample does not seem problematic. It falls in the size range characteristic for such surveys." I find this not satisfying, because the conclusions they draw from their findings are worded in such a way that they are taken as national estimates and they compare positivity rates among different groups with very small numbers. In their answer (above) they refer to other similar surveys, maybe they can quote one of these or refer to guidelines which they have used (WHO sampling guides?) to decide about the number of sampling points and the number of selected household per sampling point. Or say it was a convenience sample when it was limited by time and money.

The same is true for the 0.2% discrepancy between the planned and realized sample per sampling point: they have not made that clear to me, neither in their manuscript (no changes on this point) nor in the accompanying answer. If I don't know what it means, probably most other readers of BMC Public health won't know it either. Can they add this explanation or omit the sentence?

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