Reviewer's report

Title: Adherence to the oral contraceptive pill: a cross-sectional survey of modifiable behavioural determinants

Version: 3 Date: 3 September 2012

Reviewer: John J Weinman

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Discretionary revisions
1. in the methods section and the analyses, the reported measure of adherence is the MARS but under the list of "other socio-demographic and background factors", they also assessed the number of times participants missed taking their pill every month. The latter measure should also be listed in the Adherence to OCP section. Moreover the authors have the opportunity to assess the degree of overlap/consistency between these 2 measures. This would seem to be particularly apt in the light of their comment in the "Limitations" section that "the measurement of adherence could have been improved by using multiple methods" (p.12).

2. The Necessity scale - given the lowish alpha and the nonsignificant correlation with the MARS, I don't see why it was necessary to include this in the regression analyses. Moreover since the items have such poor face validity, the authors might like to add a few comments in the Discussion section as to how this scale could be improved for use in OCP adherence research. For example, by using a phrase at the beginning of each item, such as "Avoiding unwanted pregnancy" instead of "my life/future health" would seem to be a much more sensible way to assess this construct in the OCP domain.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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