Reviewer’s report

Title: Hepatitis B knowledge, perceptions and practices in the French general population: the room for improvement

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Reviewer: Valérie Buthion

Reviewer’s report:

Minor revision

The title is not adapted. Where could we find what is the “room for improvement”? What does it mean? This point has to be consolidated, or adapted to remain descriptive with at least the definition of the amplitude of the “room that authors suggest to fill: at least have the same perception that for HIV I suppose, which is the reference that have been taken, or something else? Why is it so important to improve perception while France has been considered as a place where hepatitis is quite well treated? (see Euro Hepatitis Index)

The paper is mainly descriptive, and the conclusion is a bit “short” to suggest that we need more targeted communication without any references to what have been done in the French context. When authors talk about screening, they compare to declined tests by biologists, but as they talk about communication, there is nothing that have been check about what has been done. More, there is an abundant literature in sociology that say that communicate is not sufficient in itself.

More, in the French context, it has been already done by three successive program for nearly two decades, that run several communication campaign. INPES makes several supports (document, web site…) for gay community or for migrants for example. It probably means that targeted communication is not sufficient by itself. It would certainly be interesting to go further, comparing the weight impact of HIV propaganda (and the cost certainly also) that have go through the all society (movies, TV program, stars coming out), while HBV or HBC are more confidential infection, that benefit mainly from public prevention campaign. Considering the place in the medias The title is, on that point, not adapted.

So the conclusion has in my opinion to be a bit consolidated, or adapted to remain descriptive.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests.