Reviewer’s report

Title: From Lyme disease emergence to endemicity: a cross sectional study of risk perceptions in different populations

Version: 1
Date: 31 October 2014

Reviewer: Laetitia Lempereur

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revision

1) M&M, data collection: It is not clear who are exactly people included in this web panel. Are they specifically interested in Lyme disease? How the panel was constituted? As they are representative for determinants but maybe not regarding to knowledge or awareness.

Minor essential revisions

1) Background, line 120: data from 1996-2001 seems quite old. It is suggested to use more recent data.
2) Discussion: How do you explain that LD was found as a highly severe disease for 76% in Montérégie, while in the same region 46% never heard about LD?
3) Table1: It could be better to make a chart instead of a table with combination of gender, age and education level data. This could help the reader to better understand the population studied (to be added to Fig 1).
4) Table 3: why experts didn’t answer to some questions ie feeling of worry or individual susceptibility?
5) Table 3: why did you use different CI?
6) Figure1: as suggested for table 1, a chart including data of the population studied could help to read and understand results presented in Figure 1

Minor comments

1) Title: suggested to add web based or comparative
2) Summary, background line 28: change formulation, “one important of which…”
3) Background line 84: don’t repeat “individual …preventive behaviors…”
4) Background line 108: “during” is missing
5) Methods line 174: remove “the” before questions
6) Table 1: Household income, it’s not easy for the reader to compare results using $Can and CHF
7) References: some are in bold.
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