Reviewer's report

Title: Vaccination coverage for seasonal influenza among residents and health care workers in Norwegian nursing homes during the 2012/13 season, a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 29 January 2014

Reviewer: Alexander Domnich

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions: Page 7, first phrase: there is a typing error (...2112/13...).

Discretionary Revisions:

1. In the Methods section authors have indicated that “Further associations were examined by correlation analysis”. However, in Results section no correlation coefficient is mentioned. I assume a Spearman or Kendall’s tau coefficient was performed between the response rate and vaccination coverage (“We did not find an association between the response rate by county and vaccination coverage among residents”). I suggest you report a correlation coefficient and associated p-value as well as indicate which correlation coefficient was used in the Methods section.

2. Similarly, in the phrase “There was no difference between median VC among HCWs whether vaccination was offered for free or not”. Results of the Mann-Whitney test should be reported.

3. The authors have indicated the low response rate as a limitation of the study. They have also discussed the lower vaccination coverage among healthcare professionals in their study in comparison with that obtained by VENICE project, which used a telephone survey. Since the modality of survey administration may affect the response rate [Dillman DA, et al. Response rate and measurement differences in mixed-mode surveys using mail, telephone, interactive voice response (IVR) and the Internet.” Social Science Research 38.1 (2009):1-18], is it possible that the email modality adopted by the authors could produce this difference? I recommend they to discuss this briefly.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests