Reviewer's report

Title: Sexual behavior and awareness of Chinese university students in transition with implied risk of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV infection: A cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 28 February 2006

Reviewer: Nancy Padian

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a thorough, well-written paper, and carefully conducted analysis. Furthermore, given the paucity data regarding risk behaviors of young Chinese adults and adolescents, this is a major contribution to the literature. One general comment is that given the enormous sample size, p-values need to be interpreted very cautiously. At a minimum, the authors should address this and perhaps consider using something like Bonferroni’s test or another method that accounts for potentially misleadingly significant results due to large sample sizes. Another general issue is that although the authors point out the importance of the Internet both in the results and the discussion, they do so only in an indirect way. I strongly suggest adding these data to the tables and considering them in the multivariate analyses.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
I only have two specific, fairly minor comments below:

p.3: How consistent has the surveillance system been and could any of the increases in HIV rates be accounted for by better reporting?

p.5: There is no information as to how the students were recruited. Similarly, how were individuals chosen for the in-depth interviews, focus groups, and piloting of the interviews?

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have not competing interests.