Reviewer's report

Title: Implications of the HIV testing protocol for refusal bias in seroprevalence surveys

Version: 2 Date: 21 October 2008

Reviewer: Patrick Sullivan

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate the authors' responses to my comments and to those of the other reviewers. The manuscript seems much clearer to me in its revision.

I would still suggest that the authors consider trying to make very clear the crux of the question and how the Heckman modeling proposes to address the question, as many readers will not be clear about the purpose and what was done without a very focused explanation. Also, the assumption that whether or not a patient has HIV is not related to their willingness to be tested seems problematic. Although the assumption is stated clearly ("HIV status is not correlated with the willingness to be tested "), I think it would be helpful to address whether you think this assumption is true, and how you think it would change your results if it were not true, in the discussion.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.