Reviewer's report

Title: Healthcare worker's attitudes to working during pandemic influenza. A qualitative study

Version: 3 Date: 6 January 2009

Reviewer: Robyn Gershon

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General Comments:

This is a welcome addition to the growing literature on barriers to healthcare workers' response intentions during a pandemic event. The qualitative findings are very similar to the findings from other recent studies and support the recommendation for proactive worker training and communication. While the results do not really add new information to our understanding of the issue, the researchers help to document the fact that ability and willingness barriers are similar across nations. Therefore, sharing strategies for addressing these barriers may be beneficial to the pandemic preparedness and response process.

Specific edit suggestions for the text:
1. The Abstract on pg 2 is unclear and should be rewritten to be more concise and specific for the reader.
2. Throughout the paper, please check for the spelling of “Qureshi”.
3. Table 1 entitled “Demographic characteristics by group” should be taken out, summarized and inserted into the text.
4. Table 2 entitled “Breakdown of themes prominent in focus groups/interview” should be summarized and inserted into the text.
5. Figure 1 needs a title.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.