Reviewer's report

Title: Study of knowledge, perception and attitude of adolescent girls towards STIs/HIV, safer sex and sex education: (A cross sectional survey of urban adolescent schoolgirls in South Delhi, India)

Version: 2 Date: 28 February 2008

Reviewer: Anthony Smith

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions:

1. Why two schools?
2. How were they chosen?
3. To what population can the results be generalised?
4. Was parental consent obtained? If not why not given that participants were as young as 14?
5. What was the refusal rate?
6. The instrument is not sufficiently described. This leads to numerous statements in the results such as "two fifths had no idea about Syphilis" which are effectively meaningless to the reader.
7. Check for value laden language e.g. "admitted being sexually active"
8. Check for poor expression e.g. female STIs.
9. The first 2 paragraphs of the discussion should be removed.
10. Avoid errors of fact. "multiple sex partners increased the risk of HIV infection" - only true in the absence of consistent condom use.
11. Discussion paragraph 5 - confuses cure and treatment.
12. Much of the discussion is actually a statement of the results and as a result the discussion needs to be completely rewritten.

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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