Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors influencing nurses’ compliance with Standard Precautions in order to avoid occupational exposure to microorganisms: A focus group study.

Version: 1 Date: 13 October 2010

Reviewer: Elucir Gir

Reviewer’s report:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Minor Essential Revisions
  - I consider Table 1 should be deleted, and the data described on the text.

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  - I suggest the authors review the aim of this manuscript.
  - Concerning the methods, the authors comment at the limitations section that only two hospitals were selected. Why only two were selected and how was the selection carried out? How many nurses were invited to participate? From how many hospitals? Which clinical disciplines were included?
  - I consider that some cultural and social characteristics of nurses /institutions included would be appropriated and attractive for the readers
  - The discussion is very superficial. I suggest the discussion be improved, and the data discussed be adequately supported by other studies. Just some points were discussed.
  - The authors say that a qualitative study cannot be generalized to the population of nurses, but at the conclusion section they mention the data from this study will be used for the development of a questionnaire that will be distributed to larger samples. It is a little confusing. Could the authors please clarify this point?

My advice on publication is that the manuscript brings an interesting theme, but the method requires some additional information and discussion needs to be improved.

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'