Reviewer’s report

Title: Access to primary health care among Burmese migrants in London: a cross-sectional descriptive study

Version: 1 Date: 17 April 2010

Reviewer: Peter Le Feuvre

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Major Compulsory
1. Two important conclusions are a rate of GP registration of 80 % and a percentage having a consultation with a GP for their last illness at 56.8%. It is suggested that these are both low. This may well not be the case, and such conclusions could only be reached after comparisons with other groups- even UK citizens. These are a predominantly young, educated working population, likely to be mobile and likely to be healthy. It may well be that a comparable group of UK citizens has a comparable registration rate. It is suggested that the rate of consultation with a GP for the last illness is low at 56.8%. Again, this may not be the case. In such a population the last illness is likely to be of a minor self limiting nature which would not have necessitated a consultation with a GP. A comparison is needed. Most self-limiting acute illness is best dealt with by self care or a consultation with a pharmacist.

2. There needs to be more clarity over the use of the terms ‘Primary Care’ (as used in the title) and General Practice (as is used in the text). This article is about general practice. There is much more to primary care than general practice.

Monor Essential. The insertion of figure 3 appears twice in the text

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests