Reviewer's report

Title: Do we still need Title X? Perceptions of and preferences for federally-funded family planning clinics

Version: 2 Date: 25 March 2014

Reviewer: Vanessa K Dalton

Reviewer's report:

My key comments:

1. Background is too long and unfocused. No need to review all the epidemiology. Define types of services provided at these centers and role in addressing disparities. Remove discussion about cervical cancer screening among 18-21 year olds — this population SHOULD NOT be screening and most screening that occurs is explicitly against current guidelines. Also — paper suggests that breast cancer screening is covered by Title X — which is true when this exam is part of a contraception visit right? But other women are covered by other grants for breast cancer screening. Depending on the author’s point - I’d either discuss publically funded reproductive health centers (vs. “title X providers”) OR cut back on the discussion of breast cancer screening activities.

2. The analytic methods are vague — especially why decided to use both categorical and scales — probably most helpful to just use categorical. The means are not that helpful in the message.

3. Table 4 is unclear.

4. The main limitation is not discussed: generalizability. Because this population where all users of these clinical sites it tells us nothing about the preference of the population as a whole - which would be a much more compelling argument to keep these clinics open and funded.

5. I agree - there will still be uninsured women but the authors provide no justification for this statement. This is an important role.

6. No mention of privacy — many teens might opt to use these sites even if they have insurance because they are on parents insurance. This has been reported previously.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

I have one conflict of interest- I provide clinical services at a Title X organization. I am not directly paid from this organization but my employer (the University of Michigan) is paid for my effort at this site.