Reviewer’s report

Title: Trends in antimicrobial management of gonorrhoea by general practitioners in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, between 2010 and 2016: A cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 02 Aug 2018

Reviewer: SC Chen

Reviewer’s report:

My comments are as follows:

(1) The 2016 WHO STI guideline suggests dual therapy (one of the following: ceftriaxone plus azithromycin, or cefixime plus azithromycin) over single therapy (ceftriaxone when the recent local resistance data confirming susceptibility to the antimicrobial) for people with gonococcal infections. Please revise the relevant description in the background section.

(2) In the background section, please provide the relevant reference(s) regarding the description of "A previous report demonstrated that a period of five years was needed to implement an update in the Dutch STI-guideline—a change in preferred medication for gonorrhoea to an intramuscular third-generation cephalosporin- in just 64% of general practitioners (GPs) between 2005 and 2010".

(3) In the background section, please provide the relevant reference(s) regarding the description of "Since 2013, the updated Dutch guideline recommends a single intramuscular dose of ceftriaxone for the treatment of gonorrhoea".

(4) The descriptions of "Data on STI-related episodes and STI-diagnoses for gonorrhoea…from 35 GPs for the year 2010 until 2015" in abstract and "From 2010 until 2015, 263 cases…" in the results section were not in concordance with the descriptions regarding the study period ("a 6-year period from January 1st 2010 to January 1st 2016" on page 4, and "the period from 2010 to 2016" on page 9) in the methods and discussion sections. Please revise them.

(5) How to design the online questionnaire regarding GPs’ experiences with the administration of intramuscular third-generation cephalosporins? Please provide the data regarding the validity and reliability of this questionnaire. Why did the study get the data of the questionnaire without approval from an institutional review board? Please clarify them.

(6) Please provide the data regarding the treatment failure rates of dual therapy vs. single therapy (or the treatment following the guidelines vs. the treatment not following the guidelines,…, etc.). The information would be interesting to readers.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
No

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

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