Author’s response to reviews

Title: Which adults in the Paris metropolitan area have never been tested for HIV? A 2010 multilevel, cross-sectional, population-based study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for considering the third revised version (attached) of our article entitled “Which adults in the Paris metropolitan area have never been tested for HIV? A 2010 multilevel, cross-sectional, population-based study”.

Response to editorial requests:

1) Please rename the "Introduction" section to "Background"
The "Introduction" section has been renamed to "Background".

2) Please expand on the role of RDS and DC in the author contribution section.
The role of RDS and DC in the “Authors’ contribution” section has been expanded on, and this section has been rewritten as follows:

"All the authors contributed to the study. VM, AL, PC and DC had the idea for the study. All the authors substantially contributed to the conception and design of the study. VM, PC, AL and RDS created the questionnaire used in the study. AL and MCG were responsible for the data management. VM and MCG performed the statistical analyses and presented the results. All the authors participated in the interpretation of the results. VM, PC and RDS drafted the article. All the authors critically reviewed the manuscript for important intellectual content and approved the final version."

3) The authors’ conclusions would be strengthened if they could offer any policy/practice recommendations based on their findings. Concluding that more research is needed is a little unconstructive.
The “Conclusion” section has been rewritten as follows:

"At a time when, in France, many people remain unaware of their HIV status, when the proportion of people screened late is not decreasing and when many practitioners are not adhering to the recommendations for universal screening in primary care [44], it seems more important than ever that HIV screening services target not only the high-risk populations, but also those with a lower self-perceived risk of infection and/or at high risk for stigma, such as younger and older people, those in a steady relationship, and men living in immigrant neighborhoods. In 2016, a new French policy will merge (previously split) HIV, viral hepatitis and/or STI screening centers into comprehensive sexual health centers, which will provide all these screening tests, as well as information, contraception, STI care and linkage to specialist care. This will possibly increase access to HIV screening for those who stay away from HIV testing services. Also, community-based and/or outreach, combined, rapid screening test services should not be limited in France to MSM communities but rather extended to other communities, in particular, immigrant communities other than just that from sub-Saharan Africa."

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronique Massari