Author’s response to reviews


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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Professor Zhou,

Thank you for your review of our paper ‘Hepatitis B vaccination uptake in hard-to-reach populations in London: a cross-sectional study’. Please find below our responses to the editorial comments.

1. Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your "Ethics and Consent to Participate" section. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an ethics committee or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the committee or a reference to the relevant legislation.

Consent was written. This is now documented on line 329.

2. Please amend the statement in the "Consent for publication" section, as this refers to consent obtained to publish potentially-identifying information (of patients/participants). If your manuscript does not contain any individual person’s identifiable data or information, please state “Not applicable” under this section.

Thank you. This has now been amended, as requested (line 333).
3. Please clarify your statement on the availability of raw data. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. Alternatively, include a statement confirming "The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request." Please note that if you do wish to share your raw data upon reasonable request and do not have consent from all patients to publish this data it will need to be sufficiently de-identified.

Sadly, we do not have permission from the study participants to release any individual-level data from the study (to the public or other researchers), so we cannot state that there is any dataset availability from the corresponding author. We have, however, now amended our data availability statement to read ‘The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due to consent for data sharing not being obtained at enrolment, but aggregate data are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request’ (line 336), as per your template.

4. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Thank you, we have done this.

We are grateful for your continued consideration.

Dr. Helen Stagg

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