Reviewer's report


Version: 0 Date: 21 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Karen Rogstad

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1. Study design and statistical analysis. Needs a clearer statement on ethics approval as it uses data on patients. Was this anonymised? Was it opt out? How was demographic data linked to results? In England anonymous testing is allowed through Public Health England, is this the same in China? The collection of secondary data statement should be in design rather than statistical analysis section.

2. Need to review use of STD with STI, as they are using them interchangeably when they are different. It would be better to use STI as in title.

3. There needs to be discussion that although STIs, these infections can also be passed on through vertical transmission, medical/dental interventions etc. This should be made clear in the introduction and in the discussion.

4. Re tables of results. In view of the level of detail provided, can they be certain patients are non-identifiable.

5. Page 12 line 7. Remove "should be".

6. Conclusion. Use term epidemic rather than prevalence. Authors need to check this throughout article.

7. Figures 1 and 2. Need to replace term relevance with prevalence.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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

Yes
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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