Reviewer's report

Title: A cross sectional study of risk and trust perceptions of nanotechnologies across four stakeholder groups

Version: 2 Date: 10 March 2015

Reviewer: Ugo Fedeli

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript explores an interesting issue of risk perception and is clearly written. Authors should address the following concerns before publication:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) The Introduction is too lengthy. The six study hypothesis are first fully explained, then summarized at the end of the Introduction. Consider to move the full explanation (with all related references) in Discussion, and to leave only a synthetic description of study hypotheses. Furthermore, the difference between study hypothesis 4 and 5 remains unclear (Page 7)

2) Methods, logistic regression models. Prevalence estimates were corrected for the study design by the Proc Survey function. Did also regression models take into account sampling weights (e.g. by the Surveylogistic procedure or similar)?

Minor Essential Revisions

1) Table 1 and Table 2 display the same Results, and should be collapsed in a one single Table (although addressing the first and the second study hypotheses)

2) Results: authors should mention the presence/absence of differences by age and gender for the public risk perception (in the current version there is only "adjustment" in regression models, without description of variation, if any)

3) Discussion: in page 17 it is stated that "when public familiarity was compared to academic,....... we found that familiarity alone could not explain the entire difference..." Is this statement really supported by statistical analysis?

4) Editing typos must be checked and corrected, e.g. Page 4, line 15 "in its bulk form"; Page 6 line 6 "riskier than those".

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests