Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with sexual risk behaviors with non-steady partners and lack of recent HIV testing among German men who have sex with men in steady relationships: results from a cross-sectional internet survey

Version: 1
Date: 18 May 2015

Reviewer: Susan Kippax

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting and important paper. I think this an interesting and important paper. I have only a few comments none of which fall into the major compulsory category.

For many readers, the paper could be made more interesting by comparing the German figures on testing practices and unprotected anal intercourse with other European data. I am very surprised, for example, by the relatively low rates of testing – at least as compared with Australia.

Minor comments in need of revision:

• “without an HIV diagnosis” is unclear: Does it mean that the participants haven’t been tested or that they are HIV-negative or both? Please clarify.

• “outcome group” as used in the abstract is unclear. It is clear in the paper proper but it needs to be clarified in the abstract.

• Line 260: p > 0.05 .. I assume the authors mean p < 0.05?

Discretionary revisions:

For many readers, the paper could be made more interesting by comparing the German figures on testing practices and unprotected anal intercourse with other European data. I am very surprised, for example, by the relatively low rates of testing – at least as compared with Australia.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interest