Reviewer's report

Title: Chlamydia trachomatis, Neisseria gonorrhoeae and syphilis among men who have sex with men in Brazil

Version: 1 Date: 8 March 2015

Reviewer: Suneeta Soni

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written paper highlighting the high burden of STDs among young MSM, particularly those who are HIV infected, in Brazil. The findings of the study are striking and, although not novel, they are worthy of publication to add to any existing data on MSM in Brazil.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Did the authors use a different confirmatory assay for GC detection?
2. The results section is a bit confusing, I'm not sure it follows well. Under the STD prevalence heading there is no detail about the actual STD prevalences seen, these are only depicted in the table. Yet the rest of the results section is extremely wordy and much of it can be cut out as it is does not necessarily add to the findings (eg line 183-185) and/or already depicted in tables.
3. Furthermore the paragraph (lines 149-161) describing the HIV cohort seems out of place under the STD prevalence heading - there is nothing about STD prevalence apart from at the end of the paragraph. It is more about sexual behaviour and describing HIV parameters. The paragraph following this then goes back to describing characteristics of those who had one or more STD.
4. Under heading STD symptoms - did any MSM with syphilis present with ulcers?
5. The paper refers to anorectal NG/CT often but neglects to say much about syphilis in the discussion even though syphilis prevalence was as high as rectal CT and the presence of syphilis plays a huge role in the transmission of HIV.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Line 179 and 182 say the same thing

Discretionary revisions

1. Line 237 - could number of sexual partners be under-reported?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests