Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of migration origin on individual protection strategies against sexual transmission of HIV in Paris metropolitan area, SIRS cohort study, France.

Version: 2 Date: 13 June 2014

Reviewer: Paul Ward

Reviewer's report:

The authors have appropriately responded to some of my original concerns, although a few of my concerns have not appropriately been dealt with.

I asked about whether the paper represents 'new' knowledge in the international field. The authors simply state that it is new in France. However, BMC Public Health is not a French journal - it is an international journal which, in my view, should publish research which has international relevance, rather than research which has been already done elsewhere and simply replicated in France. Therefore, I feel that the authors, rather than simply dismissing my concern, should appropriately deal with the issue head on - they need to make a scholarly argument about what specific additions to knowledge this paper makes for international public health audiences.

I asked about the prior validation of the questions. The response is that because lots of people answered, it must be valid. I disagree - lots of people may well answer a questionnaire, but that does not necessarily mean they 'understand' the actual questions. The authors need to respond appropriately to my original concern.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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