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:** 11 April 2015

**Reviewer:** Jason Roy

**Reviewer's report:**

Statistical review:

Given that cross-sectional survey data were used it is not possible to tell the difference between effects of causes and causes of effects. It is difficult to know whether controlling for some variables is actually controlling for effects of the outcome.

I think it's pretty uncontroversial to control for age, income, education levels, and religious affiliation, based on the assumption that those factors are probably unlikely to be caused by (e.g.) an adoption of a condom-based approach. However, for many of the other variables (e.g. couples status, number of partners) it's unclear whether they should be controlled for.

I think presenting results from a model that controls for age, income, education levels, and religious affiliation, in addition to the two models that were presented in Tables 2 and 3, would be useful. I would use caution when interpreting the results from the fully adjusted models.

Table 3. Why is the coefficient and confidence limits for the 'never had sex' category equal to 0? Same question about 'self perceived sexual orientation homosexual'.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests