Reviewer's report

Title: Distribution of health literacy strengths and weaknesses across socio-demographic groups: a cross-sectional survey using the Health Literacy Questionnaire (HLQ)

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Reviewer: Aleksandra Jovic Vranes

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript Distribution of health literacy strengths and weaknesses across socio-demographic groups: a cross-sectional survey using the Health Literacy Questionnaire (HLQ).

This is very important and interesting topic.

In general, the article is very good, and I would address few issues only:

1. In the Results section authors have presented demographic data for the overall sample (Table 1), as well as HLQ scores for the overall sample (Table 3). In addition, the Table 4 again refers to the overall sample. These 3 tables all refer to the overall sample. The Table 2 compares the differences between the demographic characteristics of the eight organizations while the rest of the tables is analyzing the overall sample. This table should either be removed or the rest of the tables should be discussing each of different organizations in particular.

2. Comment in the line 197, 198 (There were no statistically significant differences in HLQ scores between sites, with the exception of the scale ‘Actively managing health’ between two sites only (data not shown). Why are these data not shown? Or the missing data should be analyzed and discussed.

3. In Methods section authors indicated that the first 5 scales have four responses, and scales 6-9 have range of five responses (line 138-141). It does not mach with Table 3 where responses range from 1-5 for all scales.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.