Reviewer’s report

Title: Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage and its determinants among nursing homes personnel in Western France.

Version: 0 Date: 27 Aug 2016

Reviewer: Puja Myles

Reviewer's report:

Overall this was a well conducted studies and though there are some limitations inherent in such surveys (for e.g. concerns around selection bias), the authors have acknowledged these. The paper is generally well written though there are a few typographical and grammatical errors that need correction before publication.

In the abstract, please clarify the full form of 'PR' when first used. The term 'antecedent of influenza' is not immediately clear so please rephrase this.

In the methods please clarify whether any open response questions were included in the survey or were all questions closed with specified options for the interviewees to choose?

In the discussion, on page 9 (paragraph 2) social influence has been mentioned with the last statement reporting findings from other studies on social closeness- the meaning is not entirely clear- can you please rephrase and explain this a bit more for e.g. what is meant by, 'vaccinated people were close to other people who agreed with vaccination'?

In the discussion on page 11 it is mentioned that France temporarily made influenza vaccination compulsory for HCWs in 2006 but 'quickly cancelled' this policy. Can you please discuss this point further? Why was the policy cancelled? Did you have an opportunity to elicit views of interviewees on mandatory vaccination? Is this something that they would respond to favourably?

In the results you state that about 17% stated financial barriers to vaccination. Can you discuss this further in the discussion? Are HCWs in NHs expected to pay for their own influenza vaccinations or would this be covered under occupational health services as it is recommended by their employer? Did you ask interviewees if they would be willing to receive influenza vaccination if it was provided for free under occupational health?

Finally, Table 5 is nicely laid out to represent various perceived barriers and benefits of vaccination; this potentially fits in well with behavioural models such as the Health Belief Model. Can you discuss your findings in the context of this model?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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