Reviewer’s report

Title: The Process by which Perceived Autonomy Support Predicts Motivation, Intention, and Behavior for Seasonal Influenza Prevention in Hong Kong Older Adults

Version: 1 Date: 09 Feb 2017

Reviewer: Italo Francesco Angelillo

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript describes a study performed to evaluate a framework that integrates self-determination theory and the theory of planned behavior to explain the use of facemask for the prevention of seasonal influenza among Hong Kong older adults. The paper needs editing by a native English person.

Methods

a) The timeframe considered for the survey should be specified.

b) The participants have been recruited from one senior center in Hong Kong but it is not described how the center has been selected. Did they have a list of all center?

c) The Authors stated that the Senior center staff and members of the research team invited 180 older adults to participate, but it is not indicated how the selection has been performed.

d) It is not indicated how the sample size has been calculated.

e) It is not clear how the informed consent has been obtained from each participant. Please, clarify

f) Authors describe the questionnaire items used to assess participants past facemask-wearing habit, knowledge of facemask wearing benefits, frequency of influenza infection during the past 6 months, and perceived susceptibility. What about their validity and reliability?
g) The response rate and the description of the demographic characteristics of the participants presented in Table 1 should be moved in the results section.

Results

a) No information is given about non-responding older adults. How did they differ from those in the sample, how representative is the sample and where the findings representative of the geographic area?

Discussion

a) A limit of the study is the relatively small number of subjects involved. The Authors should stress this limitation in the Strengths and Limitations section.

Tables

Table 1. The % reported in each row should be deleted.

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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