Reviewer’s report

Title: Changes in risk perceptions during the 2014 Ebola virus disease epidemic: results of two consecutive surveys among the general population in Lower Saxony, Germany

Version: 0 Date: 17 Mar 2018

Reviewer: Vaman Kulkarni

Reviewer's report:

Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

General Comments:

The article has been well written and is of relevance to the journal submitted. However, there are few concerns which need to be resolved before it is published in the journal concerned.

Specific comments:

Abstract:
- The authors need to include few more details in the methodology part regarding no. of participants and statistical tools.

Introduction/Background:
- The authors need to define what they mean by media and risk perception
- The last paragraph of the introduction I feel is providing rational for the present research. But, in the manuscript it felt like a briefer version of methodology. This part needs re-writing so that it can fit to the rationale purpose.

Methods:
- The authors need to define their sampling frame. In the previously published article of the first part of the study they've mentioned that there were 1300 participants, but this study reports 620
participants. What happened to the remaining 680 odd participants? I feel it would benefit the article immensely if authors mention detailed participant flow during different phases of the study.

- The authors have given explanation regarding the study tool in the previous publication. However, the readers would like to know about the validation and pre-testing details of the tool. Please mention about them.

- Rather than providing the questionnaire/tool in a paragraph form the authors can submit the tool as a supplementary material.

- More details regarding statistical analysis will help the article.

Results:

- Okay

Discussion:

- It feels like summary of results. The authors need to provide implications and meanings of the results and observations of their study.

- Please include strengths and limitations of the present research in the discussion section.

Conclusion:

- Okay.

References:

- Re-look into references as in some cases it is incomplete.

Tables and figures:

- Okay
**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No

**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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