Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of human papillomavirus infection among women from quilombo communities in Northeastern Brazil

Version: 1 Date: 13 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Peizhong Peter Wang

Reviewer's report:

In this descriptive study, the authors reported results of a papillomavirus infection in Quilombo community in Brazil. While this study seems to add some new knowledge, it offers limited generalizability.

1. Introduction: I agree with the authors health data about Quilombola are scarce. However, this argument alone may not be sufficient to justify the importance of this study. Additional background information and importance of this study should be provided. A major limitation is that the study lacks an adequate comparison group.

2. As a public health paper, some laboratory description in the method section can be simplified. For example, some the description on pages 7-8 can be greatly simplified. The study participants were comprised of 395 Quilombola women receiving cytological examination local clinics. This limitation should be discussed.

3. The results presented in seven tables are either univariate or bivariate. I feel the number of tables can be reduced by better organizing the results.

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.

No

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

Unable to assess
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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal