Reviewer’s report

Title: The introduction of "No jab, No school" policy and the refinement of measles immunisation strategies in high-income countries

Version: 2 Date: 06 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Felicity Cutts

Reviewer's report:

The paper is much improved. I have one minor comment as I still find the description of school entry vaccination a little unclear.

The authors replied to my previous comment that they had clarified the paper by specifying in the Methods section that both the school entry vaccination and the catch up campaign among 1-15 yo are administered to individuals who were NOT VACCINATED during routine programs.

When I look at the WHO website on vaccination schedules, I see that in Italy MMR or MMRV is recommended in the 2nd year of life and at school entry. That is, children are supposed to receive TWO doses of vaccine. The authors state that in the model, only children who were UNVACCINATED were considered eligible for school-entry vaccination. As far as I know, that is not current practice in industrialized countries - if a child has only had ONE previous dose of vaccine, they are given another dose at school entry. If a child has never been vaccinated against measles, they are given 2 doses at school.

I'd suggest, therefore, stating clearly (if this is the case) that children who had already had ONE dose of measles-containing vaccine were NOT considered eligible for school-entry vaccination (or for the catch-up campaign) in this model. Alternatively, if children who had only had 1 previous dose of vaccine were eligible, then state that children who had received ZERO OR ONE previous dose were considered eligible...

On a related note, it would also be helpful to define what they mean by "coverage" of each strategy. Does 40% "coverage" of school entry vaccination mean that, of children who had not been vaccinated prior to school entry, the strategy vaccinated 40%?

Likewise, does e.g. 30% coverage of the catch-up campaign mean that 30% of the children who had not previously been vaccinated were vaccinated during the campaign? It is important to specify this clearly because WHO reports "coverage" according to the entire target population of a catch-up campaign which is the entire population in the relevant age group - most campaigns are unselective, that is they offer vaccine to all children irrespective of how many doses they have had before.
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?
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Not applicable

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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