

Reviewer's report

Title: Local public health workers' perceptions toward responding to an influenza pandemic

Version: 1 **Date:** 24 January 2006

Reviewer: Raymond A Strikas

Reviewer's report:

General

Well written paper addressing an important issue for urgent health threat preparedness.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The authors should assure the readers, if at all possible, that the moderate response rates to the questionnaire do not bias the study. The simplest approach is to list the demographics and job classifications of the non-respondents.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

In the Methods, examples of technical/support staff should be presented, as they are for clinical staff.

Confidence intervals in Table 1 for Gender, female, multivariate OR, appear to be in error (listed as 1-0).

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

None

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.