

## PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form ([see an example](#)) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below. Some articles will have been accepted based in part or entirely on reviews undertaken for other BMJ Group journals. These will be reproduced where possible.

### ARTICLE DETAILS

<b>TITLE (PROVISIONAL)</b>	A Four-Country Survey of Public Attitudes Toward Restricting Healthcare Costs by Limiting the Use of High Cost Medical Interventions
<b>AUTHORS</b>	Robert J Blendon, John M Benson, Michael D Botta, Deborah Zeldow and Minah Kang Kim

### VERSION 1 - REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Olli-Pekka Ryyänen, professor, University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, Finland  no competing interests
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	21/03/2012

The reviewer completed the checklist but made no further comments.

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Adele Diederich Professor of Psychology Jacobs University Bremen Germany
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	26/03/2012

<b>THE STUDY</b>	Demographic details should be added. For Germany: How many participants are covered by a private health insurance?  No references to similar studies done within the respective countries. It would be interesting to see how the results relate to the current ones.
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### VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

FROM REVIEWER 2

b. Demographic details should be added.

Because the data are weighted as described, the key demographics of the survey represent the national adult populations of each country. As a result, showing demographic characteristics of the survey sample could be misleading. We changed the paragraph structure on p. 10 to make this point more prominent. (Also, because the demographic measures other than sex and age vary from country to country, displaying the demographics for all of the countries would be difficult to display and potentially confusing.)

c. For Germany: How many participants are covered by a private health insurance?

The survey instrument did not ask respondents any questions about their health insurance status.

d. No references to similar studies done within the respective countries. It would be interesting to see how the results relate to the current ones.

We have added references to three specific studies (in addition to the earlier U.S. study already referenced) and their general findings (p. 8). The findings of the new survey seem generally to align with those of the previous studies, although the questions in the new study are different in their focus.

#### GENERAL

e. We have added the new references and renumbered those and subsequent references in the text and reference list.

f. We also re-accessed each of the URLs and updated the access date.

Please feel free to contact us if there is anything else you want us to do to improve the manuscript.