Reviewer's report

**Title:** Sudden cardiac death in the young (5-39 years) in the canton of Vaud, Switzerland

**Version:** 5  
**Date:** 9 September 2014

**Reviewer:** Bo Gregers Winkel

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors has responded wel to my comments. Indeed, the manuscript reads better with "presumed SCD".

Page 8, line 146 - please add "presumed"

Page 9, line 154-158 - I recommend deleting this - Most of your drownings were in fact drownings (autopsy results), and road vehicle accidents are very difficult if impossible to adher to cardiac disease in this age group. Rather, driving under the influence of alcohol or other substances, or merely distraction would be cause of death. Including these deaths in a "high estimate" in my opinion is useless.

Page 11, line 201: I agree, but consider expanding the perspective even further. Statistics are good, but what's really important about the autopsy is the potential inherited trait that could affect family members. This, in my opinion, even further underscores the importance of the autopsy and the subsequent handling of the bereaved family. This should also be incorporated in the Conclusion.

Table 3: You need to clarify that there are a number of autopsies in which you do not have access to the conclusion of the autopsy. As an example (drownings) now, it reads 16 drownings, of which 11 were autopsied, and 4 confirmed the diagnosis. But this is misleading according to your rebuttal. What is right (as I understand it) there were 16 drowning, of which 11 were autopsied. Of these, conclusion of the autopsy was available in 4, and OF THESE 4 confirmed the diagnosis. This is rather important in my opinion...

"No data concerning autopsy" could be changed to "unknown if autopsy was performed" to further clarify.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests