Reviewer's report

**Title:** Trends in sexually transmitted infections in the general practice compared to STI centers: surveillance of routine electronic medical records and STI center registers in the Netherlands

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 3 April 2010

**Reviewer:** Victor Minichiello

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a well written and argued paper and presents valuable statistics on the topic of STI. A few issues that the authors must address.

1. The literature review is too specific to The Netherlands. I suggest that a broader context of the issues needs to occur here. How does the health care system structure the presentation of STIs within it, for example?

Under results, can the age distribution discussion include any findings of significance to those aged 50 and over. The emphasis on the younger population needs to be checked against a more open approach to sex across the life span. I note the statement that patients in the 50+ group were over-represented in the chlamydia discussion.

I would like to see a few more paragraphs in the discussion speculating about how the health care system is influencing presentation of patients, testing and diagnosis and healthcare seeking behavior.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.