Reviewer's report

Title: The safe implementation of a prison-based methadone maintenance programme: 7 year time-series analysis of primary care prescribing data

Version: 1 Date: 4 February 2014

Reviewer: John Richmond

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary revisions:
1. The introduction of suggestions of international applicability of a primary care led prison based drug treatment system is a new idea not alluded to prior to the discussion area. I think it is a valid point but not to do with the stated aim of the study and did not quite flow, especially as it said 'clearly' (twice) - whereas it had not been anything that I was expecting to have to think about prior to that point - so did not feel 'clear'. I appreciate it is a discussion point and probably just needs a label such as 'international applicability', or something like that to prepare the reader for the slight change in direction.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.