Reviewer’s report

Title: Physician experience and rates of plasma HIV-1 RNA suppression among illicit drug users: An observational study

Version: 1 Date: 19 September 2011

Reviewer: Enrico Girardi

Reviewer’s report:

This paper is concise and well written. It addresses the issue of HIV care for IVDU and provide new evidence on the role of physicians experience

Minor essential revisions

1. It is not clear how the patients were referred to the different physicians. This information should be provided

2. Were all the physicians working in the same institution, or were they working in different institutions? If the latter is true the author may wish to consider taking this into account in the analysis (eg by multilevel analysis)

3. A brief discussion on previous knowledge on the association of physicians experience with the outcome of ARV should be added to the discussion

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

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'