Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and risk factors of syphilis infection among drug addicts

Version: 2 Date: 12 May 2005

Reviewer: Christina Marra

Reviewer's report:

I think that it is fine. I do not see, however, that the authors did not address my comment:

In the Discussion, the authors state that they could not demonstrate a protective effect of the participation in substitution programs on the syphilis serostatus. Please provide these data in the results section.

Also, isn't the following statement reversed? Don't they mean "false negative?"

Some cases might have remained undetected (false positive) but it is unlikely that this would be associated with any particular risk factors. On the other side the false positive cases would have the effect of diminishing estimate of the true increased risk.

Finally, the English needs a bit of editing.