Reviewer's report

**Title:** Cognitive and psychosocial development of HIV pediatric patients receiving highly active anti-retroviral therapy: a case-control study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 30 September 2010

**Reviewer:** Diane Melvin

**Reviewer's report:**

I think the authors have addressed my main original queries.

Just a couple of points (discretionary revisions)

1. Re Ethnicity - were all the non greek children born in Greece as early experiences, nutrition, health and psychosocial factors as well as HIV can affect later developmental progress. Was there any difference on IQ scores for those born in Greece compared to those not? Might be helpful just to mention this

2. Discussion (Malee ref) There is an emerging literature base that the relationship between disclosure of the diagnosis and emotional adjustment is very complex and needs to be considered a process over time. Would be suggesting that the kinds of difficulties you are reporting re overactivity and increased emotional vulnerability need to be identified early so interventions or support can be provided independently of 'naming ' of the diagnosis.

3. Perhaps there is a lack of considering the developmental stage in reporting on the SDQ results? were all those who scored high on hyperactivity scale at younger age and those high on emotional or social difficulties scales at older age.

4. Abstract. Perhaps mention limitations - small study sample size / large age range here as well as in discussion

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

**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 I have no competing interests.