Reviewer's report

**Title:** Early eczema and the risk of childhood asthma: a prospective, population-based study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 23 July 2012

**Reviewer:** Caimmi Silvia Maria Elena

**Reviewer's report:**

In the present paper, the Authors consider a large cohort of patients presenting with eczema at the age of 2. The aim of the study is to evaluate the risk of developing asthma and allergy by the age of 6. In the revised version of the paper, the main objectives of the Authors are well defined. The Methods section is appropriate, well described, and reproducible. Tables and figures are clear and help the reader understand the study and its results.

The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the results presented in the article. The authors nicely explain their hypothesis on the atopic march in the considered population.

**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 that I have no competing interests.