Reviewer's report

Title: Drug use profile in outpatient children and adolescents in different Italian regions

Version: 3 Date: 18 March 2013

Reviewer: M Marozzi

Reviewer's report:

I have a concern about the inferences. Since the data set is not a random sample taken from a population, it is not correct to make inferences (like computing CI and p-values) as if the data were a random sample. The use of nonparametric methods avoids parametric assumptions like that of normality but not the assumption of random sampling. To which population do correspond your inferences, if you obtain them from something that is not a random sample from the population you would like to infer on? This is an important limitation of your study. The conclusion you can reach are merely descriptive rather than inferential. This point should be clearly discussed in the paper.