Reviewer's report

Title: Homelessness, residential mobility and length of stay after acute psychiatric admission: a cross-sectional study

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Reviewer: Daphna Levinson

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Title: Homelessness, residential mobility and length of stay after acute psychiatric admission: a cross-sectional study

The paper describes a study done on a set of two-years-of-admissions data. The cross sectional analysis yields results according to which the diagnosis of schizophrenia, being homeless and residential mobility are important factors in lengthening the stay in psychiatric hospital.

Major Compulsory Revisions

There are some details that are missing from the description of the analysis:

1. In the study period of "all admissions initially to an acute psychiatric ward and which culminated in a discharge between 31st December 2007 and 31st December 2009", were there patients that were admitted and not discharged? Do we have to assume that 100% of the admission in that study period are included in the analysis?

2. How was the LOS defined for the linear regression model? The paper does not provide the information how the length of stay was categorized. Which length of stay is considered "long" for the linear regression model? This decision affects the results and should be included in the methods section.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.