Reviewer's report

Title: Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders with co-existing substance use disorder is characterized by early antisocial behaviour and poor cognitive skills

Version: 3 Date: 26 June 2013

Reviewer: Himanshu Upadhyaya

Reviewer's report:

Summary:
In this manuscript, the authors compared a group of adults with ADHD + SUD to a comparable group of patients with SUD, as well as ADHD (without SUD) controls from a tertiary clinic. The authors found several key areas of differences suggesting that the ADHD+SUD group not only may have worse ADHD, but also worse neuropsychological functioning. In addition, the ADHD/SUD group preferred stimulants vs. SUD only group that preferred non-stimulant drugs of abuse.

Review:
Overall the paper is well written and easy to follow. The authors have access to a very well characterized population with comprehensive assessment that is not available in most parts of the world. Hence, the data and results are very valuable and provide useful information that is not easy to obtain.

The question is well defined and methods are appropriate. The conclusions are balanced and supported by data and the limitations are acknowledged. I have a couple of minor comments.

1) Figure 2 is not necessary, it can be deleted and text is enough.
2) On pg 9, under family background, second para, please use “unstable” instead of “instable”

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
Employer and stock holder of Eli Lilly and Company