Reviewer's report

Title: Incidence of Brain Injury and the Relationship with Substance use: Findings from a Longitudinal Community Survey

Version: 2 Date: 30 November 2009

Reviewer: David P. P Graham

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for allowing me to review the resubmission of this manuscript. All the corrections and comments from the initial manuscript review have been addressed by the author's to this reviewer's satisfaction.

This manuscript reports the results of a prospective community study evaluating a) the incidence of first-time brain injuries over a four year period for three age cohorts along with associated changes in physical health scores, b) the relationship between alcohol or marijuana problems at baseline assessment to subsequent brain injuries, and c) the development of substance use problems at follow-up assessment for those participants who incurred a first-time brain injury during the study period. The study involved 7485 participants at the baseline evaluations, with 89.7% completing the four-year follow-up evaluation.

This revised paper was clearly written, and there are many strengths in the study design. Further, the topic and results are meaningful to the field of brain injury research. Finally, every requested methodological issues was addressed in detail by the authors, with results and discussion being updated appropriately.

- Major Compulsory Revisions: None

1. Are the methods well described?
   Yes.

2. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   Yes.

- Minor Essential Revisions: None remain in this revised submission.

- Discretionary Revisions: None remain in this revised submission.

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.