Reviewer's report

Title: HIV/AIDS knowledge in detention in Hunan province, China

Version: 3 Date: 7 March 2010

Reviewer: Sten Vermund

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is much improved with clarifications on the issues raised previously. Unfortunately, it still needs a fluent English language editing job for prepositions, syntax, and other features. Perhaps there is an English language copy editor at the China CDC or other staff member who can help the authors with a final language clean-up. It may be that BMC staff would be able to help.

Major compulsory revision:

1. Thorough English copyediting is needed.

There are a few additional smaller suggestions that I categorize as "minor essential revisions":

1. I do not believe that the authors intend to use Lv instead of Lu in the name of Fan Lu of the China CDC (corresponding author). I am quite confident that that the Lu is correct as I know Dr. Lu personally and that there is always a vowel in a Chinese surname.

2. Table 2: rather than “Total” at the bottom, I suggest saying “Total answering all nine questions correctly.” Otherwise it is not evident what is meant by “Total.”

I have 2 discretionary revision suggestions:

1. Table 2: Since there are no missing data, the N=956 should be placed at the top and the first column deleted.

2. Table 3: This can be made more efficient by merging the 3 columns “after a while” and “after leaving detention”, and “others.” Also, the Yes-No could be simplified by just giving the “yes” as that also tells us the no group by inference.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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'