Reviewer’s report

Title: The Intersection between Sex and Drugs: A Cross-Sectional Study among the Spouses of Injection Drug Users in Chennai, India

Version: 2 Date: 11 November 2010

Reviewer: Linda M Niccolai

Reviewer’s report:

Overall, the authors have been fairly responsive to previous reviewer comments and the manuscript is much improved. I do think there is room for additional improvement related to addressing the issue of HIV testing and condom use among women who know their husbands are HIV+. The authors addressed this previous comment by adding one sentence to the discussion stating this finding, but with no elaboration about explanations or, more importantly, implications. In the Conclusion, the authors mention providing economic opportunities for these women and consideration of PrEP or microbicide trials for this population. While these may both be important laudable goals, they are somewhat distal to the issues at hand. Improving motivation and/or access to HIV testing and consideration of couple condom interventions may be more proximate and equally necessary efforts.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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:

I declare that I have no competing interests