Reviewer’s report

Title: Spatial Distribution and Characteristics of Injecting Drug Users (IDU) in Five Northeastern States of India

Version: 2 Date: 26 May 2010

Reviewer: V. Anna Gyarmathy

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Major Compulsory Revisions

The manuscript needs SERIOUS AND THOROUGH language editing.

“Illicit sexual activities” is too vague. If it is sex work, please call it “sex work”.

The authors say they collected sociometric data. Sociometric is a synonym of sociocentric, and it refers to data that connects each and every member of the network to everybody else (see Neaigus A.: The Network Approach and Interventions To Prevent HIV among Injection Drug Users. Public Health Reports. 1998, 113, Suppl 1, 140-150). The authors did not collect sociometric/sociocentric data. They collected aggregate network data.

“Networking” is still incorrectly used. It should be “interaction among networks”.

The authors still have no category for age 25 – they have younger than 25 and older than 25. How about 25? Is 25 younger than 25 or older than 25? No, 25 is 25. Please correct – see my original comments about age groups.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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