Reviewer's report

Title: Temporal changes in the prevalence of childhood asthma and allergies in urban and rural areas of Cyprus: results from two cross sectional studies

Version: 2 Date: 12 October 2011

Reviewer: Manuela De Sario

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary revisions
Methods, page 10: To better understanding the sensitivity analysis, since it is a post-hoc analysis, authors should explicit the reasons why they suspect selection bias had influenced study participation (i.e. low participation rate in 2008).

Results, page 12: The sentence “As a measure of the magnitude of the change in study outcomes between the two surveys, we also report odds ratios (and 95% CI) as estimated in logistic regression models before and after adjusting for the covariates” is better located in the methods section.

Results, page 12: The sentence “In fact, the estimates remain largely unaffected in multivariable models, suggesting that the adverse changes do not seem to be explained by the different socio-demographic characteristics of the participants in the two surveys” is better located in the discussion section.


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:
I declare that I have no competing interests