Reviewer's report

Title: Mortality and causes of death among violent offenders and victims - a Swedish population based longitudinal study

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Reviewer: Hannu Lauerma

Reviewer's report:

This is a research article with well-defined questions, and appropriate and well described methods. The data is for the most part of high quality. The manuscript adheres for good standards for reporting and data deposition. The discussion is well balanced, and I think that the conclusions are for the most part supported by the data. The only exception is that the conclusion "... prevention of violent behavior would have an effect on overall mortality and suicide rates" is somewhat bold, and I think that "might have an effect" would be more suitable. The title of the article is good.

The limitations of the work are relatively well described, but I would like to see some discussion concerning the fact that persons with antisocial or paranoid tendencies may be especially prone to deny their use of illicit drugs in non-anonymous questionnaires, i. e. more prone to this than other subjects. This might have a minor impact on the results.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests regarding this manuscript.