Reviewer's report

**Title**: Diet, occupational exposure and early asthma incidence among bakers, pastry makers and hairdressers

**Version**: 1  **Date**: 9 January 2012

**Reviewer**: Gianni Pala

**Reviewer's report**:

- Minor Essential Revisions
  1. **INTRODUCTION**
     In the sentence “A general framework ….. or persistence of OA” the possible occurrence of rhinitis should be cited, because it is known that, especially in subject sensitized to HMW-agents, rhinitis is often associated and precedes the onset of OA.
  2. **TABLE 1**
     Data on hairdressers but not on bakers and pastry makers have been shown. Is there a specific reason for this? If not, complete data should be shown.

**Level of interest**: An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English**: Acceptable

**Statistical review**: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests**:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below.