Reviewer's report

Title: The New Zealand Asthma and Allergy Cohort Study (NZA2CS): Assembly, Demographics and Investigations

Version: 1 Date: 10 December 2006

Reviewer: Bo Lundbäck

Reviewer's report:

General
The paper is a well-written, interesting, informative and a very clear study presentation. The information is of value for readers in general and researchers as well.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

There are no major compulsory revisions.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Still, there are no.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

1. It is an advantage that the cohort reflects all new-borns and that no selection was made based on family history of atopy or allergic diseases. However, first, how large proportions of all new borns in the two areas were included, second, of those the study aimed to recruite, how big proportion was recruited as only 1105 was included in the cohort?
2. Were there any specific aims? What were the main hypotheses? Or is the study only a descriptive study?
3. Original and review articles based on the study could be given as references and could deserve a paragraph in the discussion section. An appendix with
4. Para "questionnaires" could be expanded. There are also new questions not previously used.?? These questions could be included in an appendix.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.