Reviewer's report

Title: Nitrite inhalant use among young gay and bisexual men in Vancouver during a period of increasing HIV incidence

Version: 1 Date: 12 August 2006

Reviewer: Garrett Prestage

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a topical and useful contribution. The paper is well-structured, well-written and based on an established and well-regarded study. I have no requirement for revision to the paper, though I have made a couple of suggestions for the authors to consider.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
None

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
In Methods you state that analysis was based on the eighth & final stage of interviews. Perhaps you should note retention rate for this sample and note any possible effects from loss-to-follow up.
You also found an association between amyl use and anal intercourse - might there not also be an association with most other sex practices, including those thought of as more adventurous (eg fisting, watersports, group sex). In that context the association with anal intercourse might actually be about breadth of sexual repertoire as much as it is about the use of amyl as a specific aid to anal intercourse.

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'