Reviewer's report

Title: Low validity of self-report in identifying recent mental health diagnosis among U.S. service members completing Pre-Deployment Health Assessment (PreDHA) and deployed to Afghanistan, 2007: A retrospective cohort study.

Version: 4 Date: 14 August 2009

Reviewer: Linda McCauley

Reviewer's report:

I am fine with the changes that the author made regarding my concern about the inclusion of ADHD as a mental health diagnosis. I only ask that in the discussion of this as a limitation of the study that he also acknowledge that "while ADHD is recognized professionally as a mental health diagnosis, the public frequently views it as an attention problem or learning disability and not a "mental health issue or problem", and would therefore not respond affirmatively to the question on the screening questionnaire. Future analyses should address to what extent public perception of the condition could have influenced the results of this study."

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.