Reviewer's report

**Title:** Major Comorbid Conditions in Asthma and Association with Asthma-related Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Admissions in Adults: Results from the German National Health Interview Survey (GEDA) 2010

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 22 March 2013

**Reviewer:** Sara Maio

**Reviewer's report:**

The present manuscript concerns an important topic: the impact of comorbidities on asthma outcomes.

The manuscript is well written and interesting.

There are some points to address in the manuscript.

**Major compulsory revisions:**

**Results:** it would be of interest to compare the prevalence of comorbidities, reported in table 2, between subjects with current asthma and without current asthma.

**Discussion:**

Considering one of the aims of the study is to assess the prevalence of comorbidities among adults with asthma, I think Authors should discuss the prevalence found in the sample and compare it with the results of other international studies.

It should be useful to report in the discussion some results (the prevalence, the OR...) of the studies that Authors chose to compare with their findings and to add results of other studies that confirmed or not confirmed the findings of their manuscript.

**Minor essential revisions:**

‘Methods’, ‘Study design and study population’:

Line 6: please, explain in few words the last birthday method.

‘Methods’, ‘Statistical analyses’:

Please, explain with more details the analyses to adjust for sample design and non response, considering that the reference 32 is in German language.

Please, in this paragraph, explain better the meaning and the interpretation of ‘Unweighted n’ and ‘Weighted % (95%CI)’ that are reported in table 2.

‘Results’, ‘characteristics of the study population’:

Please, insert a comment on the comparison between the current asthma
population and total population.

Figure 1:
Please, report in figure 1 the significance of the AERD. The title of the y axe is misleading with respect to the title of the figure. Maybe Author could write ‘% of study outcome’ instead of ‘% of current asthma population’.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.