Reviewer's report

Title: Primary medical care in Irish prisons

Version: 1 Date: 2 November 2009

Reviewer: Sheila Bird

Reviewer's report:

The paper is worth but unexciting. Useful to Irish prison System but I'm not sure that paper has wider interest. Low priority for publication but no fundamental criticism. bets regards, Sheila Bird

Points of detail:

p4 exclusion from study of 3/14 prisons 'due to funding reasons' is opaque.
p7 as date is now 2009, explain whether expectations were met (line -3).
p9 etc No reference to inspection reports such as for Scottish prisons in 1994-2002 (models of clarity0 or fro E&W in 2003-2008 . . . re prison healthcare centres, mental health nurses, hep b immunization, and methadone maintenance/Integrated drug treatment System in E&W.

Table 3. re-order prisons by population so that Dr. time is seen to be 78, 78, 55, 39, than 15hrs for prisons with 284 down to 178 inmates. Is the smallest prison for females - as methadone is provided and 4 nurse WTEs?

Appendix -rather than merely provide questions, show prisons' answers per question!