Reviewer's report

Title: A prospective study of health care resource utilisation and costs associated with schizophrenia in France

Version: 2 Date: 11 February 2012

Reviewer: David Sclar

Reviewer's report:

The authors are to be commended for addressing an important issue.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. A detailed explanation of the regression method is required for transparency (i.e. so readers without a statistical background may understand the methods).
2. Given the small sample size and the methods chosen to date, how were comorbid illness (in general and mental health) accounted for (adjusted for) in the analysis? An adjusted least-square mean at each six month time frame – and comparisons across time frames – may better explain (to the reader) the observed effects.
3. Given the sample size, is it reasonable to generalize to the French population? Rather, this is a preliminary (pilot) analysis; and should be labeled as such.
4. Further comparison with previous research (at least in France) is warranted.
5. There are redundant overlaps in the manuscript. It is advised the manuscript be shortened to reflect a brief report.
6. Editorial assistance is warranted regarding use of English language (totally understandable as French is the primary language).
7. Reduce the number of tables to reflect Brief Report status.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

Reviewer: No competing interests.