Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors associated with utilisation of GP services by a cohort of people who inject drugs

Version: 3 Date: 30 May 2014

Reviewer: David Moore

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have addressed most of the issues raised by the previous reviews. However, there are a few remaining issues which need to be addressed further.

I had requested that they add a definition for the low-income cut-off for Australia to which they responded “The definition was included under Measures section.” However, I am unable to find this in the Measures section. I do see it in the abstract, but it needs to be in the Measures, as well. Please re-check.

The authors responded to our request do report on the proportions of study participants who were recruited through the different methods. However, as most of the participants were recruited through methods which are not based on a sampling frame (snowball sampling or “outreach”), they should also include acknowledgement that their sample may not be representative of the PWID population in Melbourne, which may limit the generalizability of their results.

There are some formatting problems with Table 2 whereby the reference values for some variables are missing and the AORs are not aligned with the variable they represent.

In response to our comment that the observation that low income seen as a barrier to health care access is not novel, the authors responded “Most literature describing income as a barrier to health care access occurs in country which are dependent on private health insurance and out-of-pocket payments.” This is not true, other studies from other countries with universal health care systems such as Canada and the UK have demonstrated this finding before and should be referenced.

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