Reviewer's report

Title: Shelter-based convalescence for homeless adults in Amsterdam: a descriptive study

Version: 3 Date: 27 August 2009

Reviewer: Norweeta Milburn

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Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. The Introduction section is better. The authors have responded to the concerns that were raised. The Introduction, however, is not as focused and succinct as it should be. For example, the last three paragraphs in the Introduction should come at the beginning of the Introduction. Last paragraph provides the argument for the significance of the research that is described in the manuscript but is still somewhat hesitant about the importance of this research. The authors may want to be more definitive about the contribution of their work to program and policy development.
2. The Methods section is fine and needs no revision. The concerns about the protection of human subjects and other methods were adequately addressed.
3. The Results and Discussion sections are also fine. The Discussion section needs a minor revision described below. The concern about heroin users was adequately examined. The implications of the results were addressed well.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. The term "homeless" is still used as a noun. See page 4 (second full paragraph),
2. There are a few minor typographical errors. For example, see page 4(third full paragraph, "an" should be "and")
3. Headings in the Discussion would be helpful to provide transitions for the reader. More headings like the one that was provided on page 12 are needed.

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

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

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.