Reviewer's report

Title: Comparative study of paediatric prescription drug utilization between the Spanish and immigrant population

Version: 2 Date: 16 October 2009

Reviewer: Diane Wysowski

Reviewer's report:

1) I suggest changing the final paragraph in the Discussion section to be more similar to the conclusions that are stated in the Abstract. Your data don't show what accounts for the observed differences and, as such, could be considered speculation.

2) I would suggest shortening the Discussion section to listing, in a few short paragraphs, what factors might underlie the observed differences in DID between foreign national and native born Spanish children.

Minor essential revisions:

1) Introduction, 4th paragraph--I think this paragraph should be shortened considerably to one or two sentences. For instance:
Health care professionals and the public at large are generally unaware of the health care needs of, and services provided to, the immigrant population. However, immigrants are believed to contribute to greater utilization of health care resources resulting in overcrowded health centres and accident and emergency services, and they are believed to have higher utilization of prescription drugs.

2) I suggest not using an acronym for the Spanish National Health Service. The reader can forget what the acronym stands for by the time he/she gets to the Discussion section where SNS is used again.

3) Regarding statistical analysis, please reword the paragraph before the Results to what you wrote in your response to my review for point number 4.

4) Generic drug names such as methylphenidate are not capitalized. Only trade names of drugs such as Ritalin are capitalized. Please change the capitalization of all generic drug names.

5) In the first paragraph of the Discussion, I suggest changing the word "proven" to the word "shown."

6) In the first paragraph of the Discussion, I suggest deleting "Before proceeding to analyze the obtained data, we would mention here that considerations made in reference to them can be extrapolated to Spain as a whole...." I suggest you reword. For example: "Because the characteristics of Aragon are similar to Spain in distribution of resources, health system management, immigration population
frequency, and social and demographic characteristics, our data may be
generalizable for the entire country."

7) In the Discussion under "accessibility," I suggest you change "sustain" to some
other word or words (e.g., "have concluded").

8) In the next to the last paragraph of the Discussion section, I suggest you
change "biologicist" to "biolgical."

**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:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the
statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests