Reviewer’s report

Title: Socioeconomic status and exposure to disinfection byproducts in Spain: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 11 August 2010

Reviewer: Sylvaine Cordier

Reviewer’s report:

Mention of the type of study in the title should be deleted, it is not needed.

Statistical analysis
Page 8, line 5 (revised version): “average THM levels in the area”. Is this the “current residential THM level” in the area? Please be more precise.
Page 8, lines 6-8. Why should the analyses be restricted to subjects with known history of exposure for at least 70% of the exposure window when the analysis focuses at the current THM levels and water sources?

Results
Most results that are reported on page 8 are no longer in Table 1 (water source, swimming in pools…). Variations across regions are extensively described (educational level, source of drinking water, average THM etc…) and I suggest that Table 1 would include a description by region, it would make it easier to follow.
Page 9, lines 11-13: average THM levels are not in Table 2 anymore and should be added.
Page 9, line 15: I think the reference category is “the use of bottled water among the illiterate” and not “the use of public supply water among the illiterate”
Pages 10-11: paragraph before last in the Results section. There are redundancies: temporal increases of consumption of bottled water by education are described both at the beginning of the paragraph and at the end. The interpretation of parallel trends (or not) with average THM levels (now figuring on the graph Figure 1) should be presented.

Discussion
A discussion should be added about the possible influence of the population characteristics (elderly, males, hospitalized) on the generalization of the results.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.