Reviewer's report

Title: Respiratory symptoms in children living near busy roads and their relationship to car and truck traffic: Results of an Italian multicenter study (SIDRIA 2)

Version: 3 Date: 9 December 2008

Reviewer: Josep Anto

Reviewer's report:

I've reviewed the answers provided by the authors as well as the changes and additional analysis that have performed. In the new version, and the supplementary tables, most of the questions that I did raise have been approached satisfactorily. However, I'm still concerned with the way that analysis accounting for recall bias are reported. Basically, I'd suggest that some of the analysis now reported in a draft of a forthcoming manuscript, be provided, as sensitivity analysis, in the current version. I'd suggest incorporating Fig 1 (validation of exposure measurement with external data) and Fig 2 (internal validation for those living in the same census block, traffic levels imputed from those with no symptoms) from the new manuscript or the current version. This will result in a better paper than splitting this information in two separate papers. Obviously this may involve some re-arrangement of tables and figures between the current version and the online supplement as well as the import of some sentences form the new draft to the current version.