Reviewer's report

Title: Khat use as risk factor for psychotic disorders: A cross-sectional and case-control study in Somalia

Version: 1 Date: 20 November 2004

Reviewer: michael farrell

Reviewer's report:

General
This is an impressive paper and I can little to fault in it
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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached) NONE

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
The authors should look up the ONDCP united nations web site to refer to the global growth in use of amphetamine type stimulants.
There is a very recent literature on drug precipitated psychosis, with particular reference to cannabis that may be of assistance to the authors.

There is a paper by Brugha T et al that compares the CIDI and the SCAN and looks at some of the methodological issues in using these instruments, it may be of assistance to the authors.

The authors would do well to be cautious about their prevalence estimates but to highlight the need for further studies of the role and contribution of Khat to psychiatric disorders in both Africa and also in African communities elsewhere.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Which journal?: Too insignificant to warrant publication in BMC Psychiatry

What next?: Accept for publication in BMC Medicine after discretionary revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests