Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of socioeconomic deprivation on cause of death in Severe Mental Illness

Version: 2 Date: 24 August 2014

Reviewer: Lydia Gisle

Reviewer's report:

This second version of the manuscript allows a fluid reading and straightforward understanding of the study at stake.

The authors have nicely addressed all questions and suggestions regarding the previous version in a concise however efficient manner.

Please consider, though, 2-3 points of detail listed below before publishing the text.

Minor issues not for publication

1. A few (editing/typo) mistakes left in text, ref., tables (ex. Glasgow Effect: sometimes upper case or lower case; ex. Ref n°43; Table 3: MMI …)

2. Page 8: There is definitely a negative association between socioeconomic status and mortality: higher mortality rates are found in lower SES groups.

   In this sense, it is stated page 8 (under § the role of deprivation): “this suggests a negative association between deprivation and mortality”.

   What bothers me in this expression is that the term “deprivation” has a negative valence. So strictly speaking, the negative association would be interpreted as “higher mortality rates are found in less deprived groups”, which is the opposite effect! I would suggest simply deleting the term “negative”. Later in text, it appears correctly.

3. Page 9, last sentence: it is stated that a further limitation of the study is the “impact of age on death rates”, that cannot be accounted for. I would also add the potential effect of age on the causes of death. So, if acknowledged, it could be “impact of age on rates and causes of death”…

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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