Reviewer’s report

Title: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Bronchial Asthma and Allergic Rhinitis in the adult population within the Commonwealth of Independent States: Rationale and design of the CORE study.

Version: 0 Date: 06 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Erik Melen

Reviewer's report:

Review comments to PULM-D-17-00060.

This is a revised version of the CORE study protocol manuscript. This looks like an important study from the region and I look forward to seeing study results eventually.

Comments:

1) I see that reversibility tests were performed in the study? Why not include these results when assessing asthma prevalence and COPD (postdilator FEV1/FVC<0.7 typically used as spirometric criteria)? Please clarify.

2) I feel that the paper would benefit from being shortened. Now, 8 rather lengthy tables are included and a few of these could perhaps be placed in an online supplement and/or shortened (e.g. tables 6-8). Box 1 is also quite big - place as online supplement?

3) For the outcome papers, I would also encourage analyses to identify main risk factors for each outcome (environmental, clinical).

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal