

Reviewer's report

Title: Measuring Attitudes, Behaviours, and Influences in Inner City Victims of Interpersonal Violence (VIVs) A Swiss Emergency Room Pilot Study

Version: 1 **Date:** 9 March 2010

Reviewer: Gerrit Matthes

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The authors focus on psychological factors of interpersonal violence. 69 male individuals were included. While describing those attitudes and behaviours the reviewer misses concrete data on the resulting injuries. Which pattern of injury occurred? How was the injury severity? This in fact is of major interest especially when discussing economic effects.
2. While mentioning the questions no information concerning the possible answers are provided. Did the authors use open or closed questions? Were the answers to be ticked off or did the individuals provide a free text?
3. The authors do frequently mention the comparison of the situation in Switzerland and other European countries. Could you line out those obvious differences more detailed? Are there comparable statistics of other countries?
4. Within the „limitation“ section it is mentioned that intoxicated patients were not included. However, 32% of the included individuals stated the use of drugs or alcohol before involvement in fights. Since the questionnaire was completed directly after the incident- how does that fit?

Minor Essential Revisions

1. The authors sometimes mention „Berne“ as well as „Bern“. Which is the right spelling?
2. Within „Materials and Methods“ the need of time for completing the questionnaire is mentioned. This information might be shifted to the „Results“-Section.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.