

Reviewer's report

Title: Water quality monitoring records for estimating tap water arsenic and nitrate: a validity study

Version: 1 **Date:** 16 November 2009

Reviewer: Ann Aschengrau

Reviewer's report:

This well-done research reports interesting findings regarding the validity of using routinely collected water monitoring data for epidemiological research. My comments are few and minor but should be addressed in a revision.

Abstract

1. The number of miles given in parentheses should either be omitted or explained further.

Methods

1. Give any available information comparing participants to non-participants.
2. Describe what is meant by "quarter-quarter section" and "section" when describing the assignemnt of the longitude and latitude coordinates.
3. Describe further the "haversine great circle distance formula."

Results

1. Give the two nitrite values abouve the MCL.

Discussion

1. I don't think that Table 4 is needed.

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.