

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** High Ambient Temperature and Mortality: A Review of Epidemiological Studies from 2001 to 2008

**Version:** 4 **Date:** 7 July 2009

**Reviewer:** Paola Michelozzi

### **Reviewer's report:**

The article has been revised and author has provided an adequate response to the previous major points of concern. However, some minor but essential revisions should be done before publication:

- 1) Author should carefully check for the agreement between the text and the references (i.e. page 15, line 19: check for reference 35)
- 2) Table 1: add the column about the "Causes of death" considered (i.e. all natural causes, cardiovascular causes). Clarify the meaning of "% change" (i.e. Baccini et al. 2008: Percentage change in mortality for 1°C increase above a city-specific threshold). Check for correctness (i.e. Curriero et al. 2002: % change is calculated for 10°F and not for 1°C increase; Bell et al. 2008: "mortality" in the Exposure column; Stafoggia et al. 2006: "odds ratio" in the Exposure column)
- 3) Table 2 and 3: Please replace the column "Outcome" with the column "Causes of death" as specified above (i.e. "daily mortality" is not informative: replace with "all causes" or "all natural causes").
- 4) Read carefully the text to check possible mistakes (i.e. page 16, line 17: "lack of heater" cannot be a risk factor for heat-related mortality; page 24, line 18: Preventive efforts are at local level in Europe. Nor warning system nor heat plan were developed by the WHO; the WHO project EuroHEAT collected informations about existing warning systems and defined guidelines for prevention (<http://www.euro.who.int/document/e91347.pdf>))

**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