Reviewer’s report

Title: A latent class approach for sepsis diagnosis supports use of procalcitonin in the emergency room

Version: 3 Date: 24 June 2013

Reviewer: Gordon P. Otto

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Members of the Editorial Office, Dear Authors,

Thank you for re-inviting me to review the article “A latent class approach for sepsis diagnosis supports use of procalcitonin in the emergency room” from Fabián A Jaimes and colleges.

The authors revised their manuscript and thereby fundamentally improved its quality. Additionally, they were able to answer all my questions sufficiently and refer to the comments.

There are only minor recommendations (Discretionary Revisions) left:

1. Title: The title can be more specific f.e.: A latent class approach supports the use of procalcitonin in the emergency room for diagnosis of severe sepsis
2. Spelling: page 8 A # 24 for a test was considered positive in a patient if its values remain without changes or increase, and a pair was considered positive if both biomarkers were above the cut point.
3. Structure of a sentence: page 14 In a secondary care hospital in Finland 539 patients admitted to the ER with suspicion of infection and with clinician’s order for blood cultures were studied [16].
4. Units abbreviation: various pages Sometimes ng/mL as well as ng/ml was used.
5. Spelling: page 16 A higher level of PCT…

Therefore, I would recommend to accept the manuscript for publication.

Sincerely and with the best regards

Gordon Otto

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests