Reviewer's report

Title: Association between different measurements of blood pressure variability by ambulatory blood pressure monitoring (ABPM) and ankle-brachial index

Version: 5 Date: 8 October 2010

Reviewer: Beth Davison

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate the authors' willingness to provide the results of the mixed model. The results have been added to Table 3, however, the text has not been updated to include this new model. (Also, I would suggest removing the word 'abnormal' from Table 3's title as these are models of the full range of ABI.) For full disclosure, I would suggest modifying the current text to "A multiple linear regression model of the minimum ABI showed no association with any of the variables examined, possibly due to a restricted range of response. However, the time-rate index was associated with the ABI separately in the right and left legs, and with the mean ABI for the patient (Table 3), adjusting for age, diabetes and 24-hour SBP. The introduction of 24-ABPM pulse pressure in the models instead of systolic blood pressure did not change the independent association between the time rate index and ABI..."