Reviewer's report

Title: Screening for atrial fibrillation with intermittent ECG recording in an out-of-hospital population

Version: 5 Date: 15 May 2013

Reviewer: Marco Perez

Reviewer's report:

Dr. Hendrikx and colleagues have resubmitted their manuscript entitled “Screening for atrial fibrillation with intermittent ECG recording in an out-of-hospital population”. They have addressed my initial comments adequately. In particular, they have addressed my two major concerns by adding appropriate references and addressing these concerns in the Discussion under limitations. Although I still do not think that those with AF at baseline should be included in this study, since the purpose of the device is to catch AF that is missed on baseline ECG, I do understand the argument that the authors make, and am comfortable that this was addressed further and made clearer in the manuscript. Along this line, one discretionary suggestion is to change the title to "Screening for atrial fibrillation with baseline and intermittent ECG recording in an out-of-hospital population" to make clearer the fact that baseline recordings were also used to catch several episodes of AF.

In addition, comments addressing the alternative technologies, and clarification of definitions are noted.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.