Reviewer's report

Title: Disparities in Lipid Management for African Americans and Caucasians with Coronary Artery Disease: A National Cross-Sectional Study

Version: 1 Date: 11 May 2004

Reviewer: G. John Chen

Reviewer's report:

General
Discretionary Revisions

This study examined important issues on racial and gender disparities in lipid management among African Americans and Caucasian patients with CAD using the observational data from an industrial sponsored program.

Specific comments:

1) Authors may need to discuss limitations of the study in the Discussion section. For example, the study patients, physicians and practices were highly selective in participation in the QAP. In addition, the models did not adjust for the patients' social economic status (SES), which might be due to lack of data in the database. Therefore, their findings should be interpreted cautiously, and should not be generalized to the general populations.

2) Clarify the source of “diagnosis codes” (ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes?) in the last sentence of the third paragraph within the Method section.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

None