Reviewer's report

Title: Predictors and prognosis of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation in general practice in the UK.

Version: 1 Date: 8 February 2005

Reviewer: Gregory Lip

Reviewer's report:

This is an excellent and important paper, acknowledging the limitations of a registry type analysis such as GPRD. 
UK epidemiology of AF is pretty limited and thus, this paper would help address this deficiency. 
The limitations are recognised and discussed. 
The main issue here is case ascertainment and validation, and some attempt to address this is made with the questionnaire validation.

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An exceptional article

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I am clinical lead to the team writing the NICE guidelines on management of AF.

I have had research funding, consultancy fees, lecture fees etc from various pharmaceutical companies involved in drugs for the treatment of atrial fibrillation, including AstraZeneca (which appears on the authorship affiliations!)