Reviewer's report

Title: Is population screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm cost-effective?

Version: 3 Date: 16 June 2008

Reviewer: Andrew Tambyraja

Reviewer's report:

My problems with this manuscript are the same.

I cannot accept their arguments in the presented form. Some basic misconceptions are that age is an independent risk factor for AAA rupture. I am unaware of any evidence to support this. Age is a confounding variable as AAA get larger with time and size is direct risk factor for rupture.

The statement about postop QoL after AAA repair is supported by an inappropriate reference and is still in conflict with the literature that I am aware of and have published.

The cost effectiveness of EVAR is increasingly well understood and justified.

There have been more contemporary reports about cost effectiveness of AAA screening that also conflict with this paper Montreuil B et al, Can J Surg 2008, Kim LG et al Ann Inter Med 2007.

Furthermore, there are persistent grammatical and spelling errors, Table 1 and 2 are not numbered sequentially for some reason.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

My competing interests are unchanged