Reviewer's report

Title: Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) over-triage and the financial implications for major trauma centres in NSW, Australia

Version: 1 Date: 24 January 2013

Reviewer: Petr Patka

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. As all abbreviations also the therm "NSW" Australia should be, at least ones, fully written in the article and mentioned in the list of abbreviations as this article will be published in an international journal.

Discretionary Revisions
1. The major problem which is discussed by the auteurs in this paper is the over-triage in the HEMS prehospital trauma patients in relation to transport- and hospital costs. The auteurs are, however not mentioning recently published paper on this subject with a specific attention to the use of the ISS as a triage tool for HEMS trauma patients. It is advisable to include the content of this publication (Giannakopoulos G.F. and others Eur J Emerg Med 2011;18:197-201) in the discussion and references.

2. What also should get more attention is the relevance of a single "live threatening injury" which is, in some cases, included in the group of minor to moderate injury ISS#12 or ISS#15. These patients should not be classified as over-triaged even if this has financial implications for major trauma centres in New South Wels because the Episode Funding Policy 2008/2009-NSW, Australia.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests.