Reviewer's report

Title: Direct hospital costs of chest pain patients attending the emergency department: a retrospective study

Version: 1 Date: 12 January 2006

Reviewer: Steve Goodacre

Reviewer's report:

General

The authors have addressed my comments. This is now suitable for publication.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

None

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Results, paragraph 1: I presume the Euro and $ equivalents are 1000’s, i.e. 2,900 Euros / US$3,200

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

The limitations section should probably also note that the cost-effectiveness analysis did not take into account potential uncertainty in the parameters used, due to sampling variability and the assumptions used.

Table 3: Was the unit cost for an ED visit really only 10 Euro?

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests