Reviewer's report

Title: Response rates to a mailed survey of representative cancer patients: incentive and length effects.

Version: 2 Date: 27 January 2010

Reviewer: Phil Edwards

Reviewer's report:

The authors have now included the results from their logistic regression model (presented in Table 3).

The authors have included odds ratios with 95% confidence intervals and given p-values for statistical significance.

Additional details have now been included about the incentive (i.e. one five dollar bill versus three one dollar bills).

The authors have included discussion about the statistical power of their study.

Discretionary Revisions

BACKGROUND - The authors provide a good summary of some of the literature on the effects of incentives and questionnaire length on response, but miss two published meta-analyses of these effects. The authors say that they have added these two references but they are not listed in their references (perhaps they did not find them useful to their discussion?).

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.