Reviewer's report

**Title:** Determining the interviewer effect on CQ Index outcomes: a multilevel approach

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 16 July 2010

**Reviewer:** Howard Degenholtz

**Reviewer's report:**

Minor Essential Revision

1. In the methods section, please report the number of nursing homes and homes for the elderly. Did any of these institutions refuse to participate in the study?

2. Please revise Table 7 to report the impact of the analysis on the star ratings separately for the two types of institutions.

3. (p. 15) Please revise your conclusion regarding the importance of having ‘two, but preferably three interviewers’ be used in all facilities. The increased accuracy to be had is small relative to the expense required.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests