Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of hospitalisation history (lookback) to determine prevalence of chronic diseases: impact on modelling of risk factors for haemorrhage in pregnancy

Version: 2 Date: 30 March 2011

Reviewer: Hangsheng Liu

Reviewer’s report:

Thanks for the authors’ response. The following are discretionary revisions.

1. Regarding the justification of the study, I think the authors’ response to my previous comment no. 1 would be useful - “We aimed to assess the utility of the lookback approach in a relatively healthy population, but one that makes an important contribution to hospitalizations. In Australia, 14% of female hospitalizations are related to pregnancy and childbirth.”

2. I don’t see “lack of outpatient data” is one of the limitations?

3. I am not sure the authors’ response to my previous question no. 3 is convincing because the authors want to evaluate the model performances when adding additional information.

4. Regarding my previous question no. 5, given the large sample size, I don’t expect the confidence intervals would change much unless the disease categories are highly collinear(?)

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.