Reviewer's report

Title: Supplementing claims data with outpatient laboratory test results to improve confounding adjustment in effectiveness studies of lipid-lowering treatments

Version: 2 Date: 25 July 2012

Reviewer: Kevin Schulman

Reviewer's report:

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS

1. Point-of-care testing is not uncommon for certain lab tests (eg, LDL, HDL, HbA1c, INR, creatinine). Please comment on whether such data are likely to be available or missing.

2. Please provide a reference for the information provided in the first paragraph (2nd and 3rd sentences) of the methods section. (“Increasingly, claims databases link data only from large national lab test chains…”)

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.