Reviewer's report

Title: Completeness of Registration of HIV and Hepatitis B and C Coinfection in The Danish National Hospital Registry, 1995-2004

Version: 1 Date: 14 October 2007

Reviewer: Adrian Levy

Reviewer's report:

General

The authors motivate this study by asserting that "hospital-based discharge registries are used increasingly for longitudinal epidemiological studies of HIV". The authors also include in the results and conclusion the coding of infectious hepatitis. The motivation of the study needs to be made more consonant with the results that are presented.

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

The "raison d'etre" and the structure of the Danish National Hospital Registry needs to be articulated.

What is the distinction between "computerized hospital database systems" and the Hospital Registry? Patient or treatment registries are structurally distinct from hospital discharge abstracts and the data are typically collected for different ends.

As written, the conclusion of the abstract is a result. Instead the authors should consider giving an interpretation that links back to the reworked motivation of the study.

What is meant by the second sentence of the Introduction, "..., making it ideal for epidemiological research"?

Hazard ratios and Kaplan-Meier curves are not appropriate statistical measures.

The notion of time that is incorporated in the analysis requires some more elemental thinking.

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

**What next?**: Reject because scientifically unsound

**Level of interest**: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

**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