Reviewer's report

Title: Factors prompting PSA-testing of asymptomatic men in a country with no guidelines: A national survey of general practitioners

Version: 3 Date: 29 October 2008

Reviewer: Melina Gattellari

Reviewer's report:

I believe only one issue remains unresolved. The authors state that they tested for multicollinearity in their modelling but did not specify how. The Hosmer and Lemeshow test referred to in the authors' response I think is a reference to the Goodness of Fit test, which is not diagnostic of multicollinearity.

Instead, variance inflation factors and conditioning indices are usually calculated to test for multicollinearity. I have difficulty accepting that that number of sessions worked is not highly correlated with being full-time or part-time.

One simple test for working out whether confounding is operating is to stratify the analysis by, say working part-time or full-time and calculating the odds ratios with in each strata for gender. If the odds ratios are different, that would confirm confounding.

My main comment is that the authors should more fully describe the techniques they used to assess collinearity in their modelling.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.