Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of Warfarin Use in Atrial Fibrillation

Version: 1 Date: 17 October 2011

Reviewer: Olivia J Phung

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. General Comments:
   a. This is a thorough and well-conducted systematic review on the factors (either patient or prescriber) which may be associated with warfarin usage. This is an important topic to evaluate because we will then be able to target interventions or methods to improve utilization of warfarin when it is indicated for stroke prevention. This systematic review also adds to the current understanding of prescribing patterns and factors which influence prescribing.
   b. Ensure that all methods are presented in past tense.
   c. Please be consistent in the usage of “p-value” or “P value”
   d. Minor grammatical corrections are needed throughout the manuscript.

2. Abstract
   a. Would recommend changing the word “time” to “year of study”. “Time” could mean many different things, whereas an actual calendar year was what was analysed.
   b. For advancing age as a dichotomous variable, would add statement that cutoffs varied per study. As it stands, the reader is unsure what age cutoff was evaluated.

3. Results
   a. Authors stated that there was a moderately strong correlation between warfarin use and progressing time. Please provide criteria for determining “moderately strong” in the Methods section.
   b. Strength of evidence grading
      i. Third sentence has an extra period at the end. Please remove.
      ii. Last sentence: Should there be a closing parenthesis at the end of “n=370”?

4. Tables and Figures
   a. Table 3: Please separate I2 and Cochrane Q p-value into two separate columns. This would improve readability of the table.
   b. Table 3: SOE is not used in the table and does not need to be defined in the legend.
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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