Reviewer's report

Title: Multimorbidity in general practice: Exploring its impact

Version: 1 Date: 12 November 2007

Reviewer: Marjan van den Akker

Reviewer's report:

General
This manuscript gives nice insight in the occurrence of multimorbidity in a selected population. I have some questions and remarks.

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

- the title does hardly reflect the contents of the paper (missing are: feasibility, low SES, and relatively young age)

- For this study only patients with 3 or more diseases were included. This choice is not very helpful for the clarity of the definition of multimorbidity. Also I don't see a very good reason to restrict multimorbidity to 3 diseases or more.

- Why were control patients only selected in IMC?

- Page 5, second paragraph: "Data on hospital activity was incomplete in both practices". I'm not sure what this implies: missing diagnoses and medication?

- In the discussion authors see a similarity of combinations found in their own study and in other studies. However, no combinations were reported here.

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

- In the description of the data collection Figures 1 & 2 are mentioned. Please replace by Tables 1& 2

- Please describe JMP (statistical analyses)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

- I think it's a bit odd to include one of the co-authors in the acknowledgement

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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