Reviewer's report

Title: Cholecystectomy in Sweden 2000 - 2003: a nationwide study on procedures, patient characteristics, and mortality

Version: 3 Date: 18 April 2007

Reviewer: Thomas P. Hüttl

Reviewer's report:

General
Rosenmüller et al. present a very interesting paper with well-elaborated data based on a National Swedish registry. The data gives us an excellent review about prevalence, morbidity and mortality of laparoscopic and conventional open cholecystectomy during a 4 year period in an European country. Especially data about readmission rate, interventions and deaths during readmission over a one year follow-up is a matter of particular interest for Surgeons, Gastroenterologists and General practitioners. I miss the differentiation in primary open treated patients and patients with conversion to open procedure. Probably there is a bias to the disadvantages of open cholecystectomy. This problem should be discussed in the paper.
Alltogether the authors present a very nice paper suitable for publishing in BMC Medicine.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Which journal?: Appropriate or potentially appropriate for BMC Medicine: an article of importance in its field

What next?: Accept for publication in BMC Medicine after discretionary revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.