Reviewer's report

Title: Cholecystectomy and sphincterotomy in patients with mild acute biliary pancreatitis in Sweden 1988 - 2003: a nationwide register study

Version: 2 Date: 11 September 2009

Reviewer: Greger Lindberg

Reviewer's report:

In my modest opinion the manuscript does contain sufficient novel information to merit publication. I have two minor suggestions.

1. Age should not be given as mean and SD since it is usually not a normally distributed variable (Table 1). I would prefer median and range or interquartile range.

2. I wonder if the contribution of age to the case fatality rate could be studied using a multiple regression model (e.g. Cox regression) with age, complications (if these can be determined from available data), and group as covariates.