Reviewer’s report

Title: Pharmacotherapy and the risk for community-acquired pneumonia: A case-control study of hospitalized older adults

Version: 2 Date: 3 April 2010

Reviewer: Claudio Pedone

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have satisfactorily attempted to modify their manuscript according to the issues raised. I have only two minor comments:

1) The authors provided a table showing differences between PPI users and non-users. I am still convinced that a table showing the discharge diagnoses of the controls would be helpful to better understand the results.

2) The authors consider albumin levels a protective factor against pneumonia. Strictly speaking, it is not higher albumin that is protective, but lower albumin that is a strong marker of malnutrition and in general of poor health. The variable should be analyzed accordingly, i.e. showing the increase in risk with decreasing albumin, not the other way around.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.