Reviewer's report

Title: Is there an association between low dose aspirin and anemia (without overt bleeding)? review

Version: 1 Date: 20 April 2010

Reviewer: William Ershler

Reviewer's report:

Major:

This is a well written review on an important clinical topic. Anemia as it occurs in older people is oftentimes unexplained (see Seminars in Hematology, 10/2008) and, to the extent that occult blood loss (iron deficiency) from chronic low dose aspirin occurs, part of this 'unexplained anemia' may actually be 'explained'. However, the published experience is so heterogeneous that sound conclusions from a narrative review such as this are impossible to make. The reviews of the published reports are of some interest, but much of the narrative could be nicely presented in Tabular form and the 'take home' message (i.e., there may be an association of low dose aspirin and mild anemia but more research is necessary) could be reached in a manuscript one half the length.

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'