Reviewer's report

Title: A Standard Procedure for Creating a Frailty Index in a Cohort Study

Version: 1 Date: 18 June 2008

Reviewer: Leon Flicker

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
I have none to suggest

Minor Essential Revisions
Methods
Could the authors explain why 0.2 as the cut-point on the interim frailty index?
What happens to the performance if you choose 0.3 or 0.1?

Results
Please list the reason for each of the excluded variables. A few seemed counter-intuitive

Table 2 has a typo in the heading and RR should be replaced with HR

Discretionary Revisions
The effect of sex on mortality is accentuated by adjustment for frailty and seems less apparent on follow-up. Do the authors have a suggestion why this is so?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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