Reviewer’s report

Title: Epidemiology and Cost of Herpes Zoster and Postherpetic Neuralgia Among Patients Treated in Primary Care Centres in the Valencian Community of Spain.

Version: 2 Date: 24 August 2011

Reviewer: Barbara Yawn

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions:
The data from teh Yawn publication is incorrectly quoted. 52 patients out of 1669 had 66 hospitalizations not 1089 of 1669 patients as you state. This still may explain the differences in cost but please state the numbers correctly. The idea of admitting almost 66% of the HZ patients is unimaginable.

The revisions are well done and improve the manuscript considerably.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

Have received grants funds from Merck pharmaceuticals to study HZ incidence, costs and recurrence rates. Currently have CDC funding for HZ surveillance and risk factor assessment.

No other competing interests.