Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of Electronic Health Record Data to Identify Skin and Soft Tissue Infections in Primary Care Settings: A Validation Study

Version: 2 Date: 31 December 2012

Reviewer: Coleman Rotstein

Reviewer’s report:

The resubmitted version of the manuscript MS-7166347178226484 provided by the authors has certainly improved the manuscript's quality. The authors have attempted to address the concerns raised by the reviewers. However in doing so, the authors neglected a few issues.

1. Specifically, some data are still missing from Table 2 that would enhance the reader's comprehension of the data.
   a) The authors have provided the missing data for any ICD-9 code for SSTI or IND CPT code or positive wound culture.
   b) It would be advantageous to compare these data to the data for: ICD-9 SSTI code only; ICD-9 cellulitis/abscess codes; and ICD-9 cellulitis/abscess code, that was only body site specific.
   c) The provision of the aforementioned data would enable the reader to fully appreciate how the positive predictive values were formulated in Table 3.

2. References 1 to 3 are now not quoted in the text and should be deleted. As a result, all the other reference numbers should also be adjusted.

3. The abbreviation "MRSA" should be deleted from the list of abbreviations at the end of the text on P. 12.

The manuscript is acceptable after incorporating these minor revisions.

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.