Reviewer's report

Title: Highly active antiretroviral therapy and hospital readmission: Comparison of a matched cohort

Version: 2 Date: 17 July 2006

Reviewer: Ellie Schoenbaum

Reviewer's report:

General
I have reviewed the paper again and have one major comment:

The author's address many of the issues raised by the review. One major issue that still merits discussion is the extremely high readmission rate in a setting where HAART is available. The authors mention risk group and insurance status. Do drug users have access to the general insurance? One reason for the differential results may be the novel statistical analysis and lack of bias, present in other studies, as mentioned. This is an area that should be expanded on in the discussion. Left as is, the sense is that the novel statistical approach did not lead to a particularly new finding. The paper's approach is too broad, including the cost/benefit analysis, the HAART effects and lastly the methodology. Honing in on the methodology and how it may relate to differential results is the inherent potential strength of the paper.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)