Reviewer's report

Title: Lung Cancer Stage at Diagnosis: Individual Associations in the Prospective VITamins And Lifestyle (VITAL) Cohort

Version: 1 Date: 2 May 2011

Reviewer: Michael S Simon

Reviewer’s report:

Minor essential revisions:
1. Since there is only one case of insitu lung cancer, and since this is a very rare diagnosis, I would consider running this analysis again without including the insitu case as a sensitivity analysis. If there are no differences in the results, then I think that it would be best to report the data without the insitu case.
2. Why was smoking status not used in the adjusted model?
3. For Table 1, I believe that it would be helpful to have the p values in the table.
4. I think that the trend towards less advanced disease for individuals that had more screening tests is interesting, and I would make reference to this in the abstract.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.