Reviewer’s report

Title: Cancer survivors in Switzerland: a rapidly growing population to care for

Version: 1 Date: 22 April 2013

Reviewer: Yuri Ito

Reviewer’s report:

This study provided very important statistics for cancer survivors, care providers, and policy makers. Authors stated clearly the motivation of the study and analysed using appropriate statistical methods.

Discretionary Revisions
1) Tables and figures of results were limited. The projected number of cancer survivors by sex, age and sites was also very important and useful results. Please add these results as tables if possible. If your space (number of tables) were limited, please add them in additional data (Web appendix).

2) It seems that authors used the APC from the trends in all combined sites of prevalence rates to project future prevalence. Have you tried to estimate the projection of prevalence based on trends in sex-, age- or site-specific prevalence? If possible, please clarify the difference between the results based on trends in all combined data and by sex, age and sites of cancer, because the difference of trends by site may affect to total prevalence.

Minor Essential Revisions
1) There are several methods to estimate and project prevalence. Please explain the reason why authors chose the PIAMOD (for prevalence) and Joinpoint model, citing some papers using other approaches.

Major Compulsory Revisions
None

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests.