Reviewer's report

Title: Minimum follow-up time required for the estimation of statistical cure of cancer patients: verification using data from 42 cancer sites in the SEER database

Version: 2 Date: 24 December 2004

Reviewer: Colin Mathers

Reviewer's report:

General

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

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

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

it would still be useful orientation to the reader to clarify a little more the issue of deaths due to non-cancer causes. In particular, how the method used in this paper of looking at cause-specific mortality rates avoids this issue, which remains a problem in the usual survival analyses.

What next?: Accept after discretionary 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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests