Reviewer's report

Title: Estimation of the hospital-based HIV seroprevalence as a nationwide scale using a novel method: 2002-2008 in Korea

Version: 2 Date: 2 July 2010

Reviewer: Geraldine McQuillan

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions:
How good is the medical insurance claims system, since all the data is based on this system?
Line 21 Page 5 How is proportions by year and hospital type used to adjust for non-computerized claims?
Line 17/18 page 7. It is unclear why the number of HIV-tested individuals was calculated divided by the repeated value. How many individuals had more than one HIV test per year?
Line 14/15 Page 8. Why is the highest proportion from university medical centers followed by general hospital and clinic centers. There should be a line or two in the discussion addressing this.
On page 10 line 12 the authors say that individuals >=60 years of have a higher prevalence due to increased hospitalizations in this age group. This does not make sense unless the individuals are getting infected in the hospital. Perhaps this is due to a societal change where individuals are living longer with HIV and are now reaching the age of 60 years.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.