Reviewer's report

Title: Health Care Utilization in the Elderly Mexican Population: Expenditures and Determinants.

Version: 1 Date: 8 November 2010

Reviewer: R. Frank Gillum

Reviewer's report:

This is a secondary analysis of results on morbidity from a national health survey. Strengths include lack of prior reports.

Major compulsory revisions
1. Need to improve English usage,
2. Explain what are new or unexpected findings of scientific interest outside Mexico, 3. Explain likely effects of limitations of data.
4. I suggest adding region to all analyses and Tables to identify differences in the northern and southern border areas and Mexico City.

Minor essential revisions
1. Please clarify the definition of elderly (60+ vs 65+) and use the term uniformly.
2.In Table 3, are all variables shown in the models?
3.Please state the units (pesos) in the title of Table 4 and Figure 1.
4.Why is Figure 1 inconsistent with Table 2 regarding those <20 years regarding hospitalization?
5.Please add to limitations selection bias, information bias, and generalizability to other countries.

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'