Reviewer’s report

Title: Impact of behavioural risk factors on death within 10 years for women and men in their 70s: absolute risk charts

Version: 1 Date: 9 April 2012

Reviewer: Brant Jarrett

Reviewer’s report:

Overall, this is a good article. I think that it was designed well and adds to the related field of research.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

The article includes gender as a variable in assessing mortality. However, as the methods for data collection were different based on gender, one cannot use gender as a variable. For example, data points for females were self-reported whereas males data was checked by a nurse. The questions/questionnaires were not the same between genders either. Asking about one’s physical activity level for the past week is different than asking about it for a general or average week.

Even if this information is dropped it is important to note the difference of data collection methods between genders in the limitation paragraph.

Discretionary Revisions

If the information is available, I think that it is important to look at cause of death and do separate analyses for accidental vs. non-accidental.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interest