Reviewer’s report

Title: Cancer mortality patterns in Ghana: a 10-year review

Version: 5  Date: 16 May 2006

Reviewer: cristina bosetti

Reviewer’s report:

General

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

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

Abstract
Provide median age instead of modal age.

Background
The sentence “to the neglect of cancer mortality data” is not clear.
Modify the sentence “with lymphomas being the commonest tumour (67%) [Burkitt’s subtype]” into “with lymphomas (mainly Burkitt’s lymphomas) being the commonest tumour (67%).”

Methods
Modify the sentence “The relative frequency of different cancer types” into “The relative frequency (RF) of different cancer types.”

Results
I would delete the confidence intervals for the proportions.
Provide median age instead of modal age.
Modify “the summary relative frequency (RF)” into “the summary RF”.
Modify “In both sexes, the malignancy exacting the highest mortality” into “In both sexes, the malignancy with the highest mortality”.

Discussion
I will delete the two sentences “According to the most recent Global Cancer Statistics... oesophagus and pancreas... and... In the case of males, the most recent Global Cancer Statistics... for the 9th and 10th position... Reporting the more frequent data world wide.”

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

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