Reviewer's report

Title: Costs of the 'Hartslag Limburg' Community Heart Health Intervention

Version: 2 Date: 3 September 2005

Reviewer: Sylvie Perreault

Reviewer's report:

General

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

Major comments:

The objective of the study is clear but the methods used are not sufficiently developed to judge of the validity. Major revisions need to be done.

Introduction needs to be shortened (max 2 pages);

Methods section:

Study population need to more details. We need to have more details on the population eligible to these programmes.

Source of data: A section need to be added including the source of data: lists of variables used, how these variables were defined, quality of data used, validity of data.

Study design: A section of study design need to be included. Why the study design was chosen, avantages and desavantages of the study design, internal and external validity of the study design.

Section for statistical analysis need to be presented: how the data were analysed, which methods, what is the variation around the point estimate, sensitivity analysis, etc.

Discussion section: How these data compared to other data? A section of the limits of this study need to be added. They need to discuss about the internal and external validity of the results and the transferrability of these results.

The conclusion is too long.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes