Reviewer's report

Title: Health burden and economic impact of measles-related hospitalizations in Italy in 2002-2003.

Version: 3 Date: 9 May 2007

Reviewer: Hester E de Melker

Reviewer's report:

General

The authors have improved the paper; it is still rather long it could be shortened without losing important information.

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

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

Please add in the method section the definition of 'measles without mention of complication' that these are cases without other secondary diagnoses. Also add which diagnoses (not coded by measles ICD-codes) were regarded as measles complications.

Shorten the discussion; the paper in particular the discussion section is long. It could be reduced without losing information, e.g. the part on DBC could be shortened.

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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, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.