Reviewer’s report

Title: Cancer mortality differences among urban and rural residents in Lithuania

Version: 2 Date: 2 January 2008

Reviewer: Harry Comber

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions

1. The statement in the discussion that "cancer mortality may be increasing more rapidly than increases among urban populations" seems to be in conflict with the fact that cancer mortality is decreasing for urban and rural populations overall, and for the majority of the cancers shown. What has been shown is that the rate of decrease is usually less for rural populations.

2. In my copy, all the rates in Figures 1-7 are shown as per 10000, but the last digit seems to have been truncated in the graphics. This may appear correctly in the print version.

Minor essential revisions

1. Percentage signs are sometimes used for APC and sometimes not. This should be consistent.
2. The majority of cancers probably are not avoidable, but most cancer types are at least partly avoidable (discussion).
3. A significant number of grammatical errors remain in the text, mainly related to the use of "a" and "the".

What next?: Reject because too small an advance to publish

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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