Reviewer's report

Title: Diagnostic Accuracy of Pleural Fluid NT-pro-BNP for Pleural Effusions of Cardiac Origin: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 3 October 2010

Reviewer: José Manuel Porcel

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-written systematic review on the diagnostic value of pleural fluid NT-proBNP for identifying cardiac effusions. The methodology is sound.

The only concern is that this is not the first meta-analysis on this topic. Recently, Zhou Q et al (Heart 2010; 96:1207-11) published a similar study leading to the same conclusions. The authors should include and discuss this reference.

Please, complete reference number 25.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.