Reviewer's report

**Title:** Epidemiology of idiopathic inflammatory myopathies among commercially insured, Medicare supplemental insured, and Medicaid enrolled populations: an administrative claims analysis

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 4 March 2012

**Reviewer:** Augusto Hasiak Santo

**Reviewer's report:**

Comments about the manuscript entitled: "Epidemiology of idiopathic myopathies among commercially insured, Medicare supplemental insured, and Medicaid enrolled populations: an administrative claims analysis".

The title of the manuscript might be changed to "Incidence and prevalence of idiopathic..." instead of "Epidemiology of idiopathic...". This change would improve and reflect the correct objective of the study. (discretionary revision)

The first line of "Methods, study design and subject identification" might remove the redundancy: "Study patients were selected for the study period". (discretionary revision)

The authors might clarify the type of age and sex-adjustment used in study. (minor essential revision)

The authors might also clarify the reason of the absence of rate adjustment for prevalence rates. (discretionary revision)

On page 12, last paragraph, third line, the redundancy " rates of all reported comorbid comorbidities" might be removed. (discretionary revision)

The following comments regarding the specific points to be considered according to the BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders reviewers guide are:

1. The question posed by the manuscript, related to the study of incidence and prevalence rates of idiopathic myopathies, is properly introduced.
2. No comments about data control.
3. Interpretation, discussion and conclusions are balanced and supported by the results of the study.
4. Some few comments about methodology have been presented before in the text of the report.
5. The weakness of the manuscript are discussed by the authors.
6. The few improvements regarding writing were commented before.
7. Discretionary and minor revisions pointed in the text of the report.
8. There are no ethical issues to be considered.
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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