Reviewer's report

Title: Exploring patterns of melanoma recurrence in Northeast Scotland to inform the introduction a digital self-examination intervention

Version: 1 Date: 21 October 2013

Reviewer: June Robinson

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Clarification is needed regarding the use of the term melanoma recurrence. Is this a second primary melanoma? Is this recurrence at the line of previous excision of the original melanoma?

From the use of the term in the manuscript, it seems the authors mean development of additional primary melanomas after the initial lesion.

2. In the discussion, please consider how the composition of the population studies (predominantly male) may have influenced the findings. Males are less likely to perform SSE than females.

Minor Essential Revisions

P 6 there is no reason to suggest that similar statistics would be found in North East Scotland (NES) too.

I believe the authors mean: there is reason to suggest that similar statistics would be found in North East Scotland (NES).

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflicts