Reviewer’s report

**Title:** The association between improved quality diabetes indicators, health outcomes and costs: towards constructing a “business case” for quality of diabetes care- a time series study.

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 26 September 2014

**Reviewer:** Evangelos Kontopantelis

**Reviewer’s report:**

Overall the authors have done just enough (or just short of enough, depending on one’s perspective) to address the issues raised by the reviewers. I am not impressed by their revision and I’m sitting on the fence but considering the work they put in I think it will be unfair to reject the paper at this stage. However, the level of English is even worse now and the issue needs to be addressed before publication, while the writing style remains poor making the paper difficult to read and understand. Some minor comments for the authors to address pre-publication, if the paper is accepted.

Minor essential revisions

1. “Models for curve fit” not-standard nomenclature. Either expand to explain or provide reference. Also provide the name of the command you used to fit the model.

2. Still needs to have English improved e.g.: “poisson regression fits models, for hospitalisation…” “, Cox proportional hazards model was employed”.

3. Provide software versions and (Stata) commands used to analyse the data with each model.

4. In the methods section add the alpha level used (for statistical significance)

5. When I asked for explanations in the methods section I didn’t mean the exact formulae rather the commands used and the data structure in general.

6. The author say they have included information on the interaction terms used in the methods section now, not only in the results, but I failed to find that mention.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests