Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness of a novel and scalable clinical decision support intervention to improve venous thromboembolism prophylaxis: a longitudinal study.

Version: 1 Date: 22 March 2012

Reviewer: José A Páramo

Reviewer’s report:

Whereas it is an interesting clinical article assessing the effectiveness of a computerized clinical decision support intervention on VTE prophylaxis and events in a big series of hospitalized patients in Pennsylvania, the follow-up is too short (just the hospitalization period) and the clinical relevance of the intervention should be emphasized, in order to draw practical conclusions.

Major comments

The study fails to show a significant benefit beyond a surgical setting which are those receiving more appropriate thromboprophylaxis. They have to discuss deeper the higher incidence of PE despite intervention and some of the observed results focused on medical inpatients, which are those in which thromboprophylaxis is generally underused.

Minor comments

- Se additional references reporting both clinical and economical effectiveness of an electronic alert system in the prevention of VTE should be incorporated and discussed (Lecumberri et al Thromb Haemost 2008 and J Thromb Haemost 2011)

Thrombosis in keywords

Level of interest: An article of importance 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:

N conflicts of interest