Reviewer's report

Title: The Impact of EHR and HIE on Reducing Avoidable Admissions: Controlling Main Differential Diagnoses

Version: 2 Date: 30 November 2012

Reviewer: Prodromos Chatzoglou

Reviewer's report:

Well organised and executed research on an important field.
Well written and structured paper with aims and objectives clearly stated and followed throughout the whole paper.
Limitations are clearly stated and discussed.

Discretionary Revisions (Minor issues):
The discussion section could be expanded. Managerial implications should have been considered.
Also, no information is provided as far as the technical (characteristics of the EHR used), human (users characteristics) and process/access (time available to access, who/how each user is using the info provided, who/how new info is entered into the system, etc) issues involved.

Overall, the following points were considered:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? [YES]
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? [YES]
3. Are the data sound? [YES]
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? [YES]
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? [YES, although a more thorough discussion could be provided]
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? [YES]
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? [YES]
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? [YES]
9. Is the writing acceptable? [YES]

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
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'