Reviewer's report

Title: Ancillary Study Management Systems: A Review of Needs

Version: 2 Date: 1 November 2012

Reviewer: Philip Payne

Reviewer's report:

As was noted in the prior critique, this report describes a set of information needs related to the design and utilization of what the authors describe as “Ancillary Study Management Systems” (ASMS).

The authors are to be commended for the comprehensive and systematic manner in which they have responded to the reviewer comments provided previously. These modifications to the manuscript greatly enhance the domain coverage, readability, and accessibility of what is an important body of work. Furthermore, the new figures and explanatory text provided as relevant to the study methods help to better contextualize the resulting findings and their extensibility.

This reviewer believes that the readers of BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making are likely to be extremely interested in this submission, particular those individuals working the Clinical Research Informatics (CRI) sub-domain of Biomedical Informatics.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

None

Minor Essential Revisions:

None

Discretionary Revisions:

None

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests