Reviewer's report

Title: Predicting Costs of Care in Heart Failure Patients

Version: 1 Date: 2 April 2012

Reviewer: Kristjana Einarsdottir

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Minor Essential Revisions

Discussion: It would be useful if the last paragraph began with ‘In conclusion, previous studies…’ and that it included at the end a short recap of the meaning of the findings for health care planning of heart failure patients and what future research should be performed.

Major compulsory revision:

Introduction: The rational for this study can be better explained. Clinical prediction has different rational than cost prediction and doesn’t clarify the rational for this study. The question as to why it is important to predict cost of patients with heart failure has not really been answered. Is it important for future planning of health services for individual patients? Does the knowledge that health care for a particular patient will be cheap/expensive affect the care for that patient?

Aside from that, the study is sound and the paper is well written.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests