Reviewer's report

Title: Utilization and Cost of a New Model of Care for Managing Acute Knee Injuries: the Calgary Acute Knee Injury Clinic

Version: 2 Date: 2 October 2012

Reviewer: Juan Manuel Mejia-Arangure

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
The design has many limitations, a quasi experimental study has the limitations that the researcher know the hypothesis and in a way not intentional, they would select the patients where the program is better. The controls who answered the questionnaire would have been the that want to declare their incomprehension of the attention received, and for this the cost be higher than experimental group.

The analysis is incomplete because is studies of cost is most important the willing to pay, it is necessary to assess the program with an analysis of cost, probabilistic models, Monte Carlo simulations and willing to pay. This study is incomplete. The authors need to do a decision tree.

The experimental study is bad defined. The authors must mention the way as the patients were attended.

The cost are showed as averages, however these are important when the confidence intervals are showed.

The way as the results are described and discussed do not permit to identify to whom the results are useful, because to a political markers not just is important that an intervention is cheaper, even do if he needs to hire more personal with all implications of this. For this reason the analysis need be changed to a willing to pay for an institution.

The conclusions are not supported by the data.

Minor Essential Revisions
In the results in the first paragraph the authors give us the chi square values, these are not important.

In the tables the abbreviations are not mentioned.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I do not have conflict of interest