Reviewer's report

Title: Consenting to Health Record Linkage: Evidence from a Multi-purpose Longitudinal Survey of a General Population

Version: 2 Date: 30 January 2012

Reviewer: Don Willison

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the revised paper. I am satisfied with the authors’ responses to my questions. I have no major or minor essential revisions.

I do have one discretionary revision: In the Discussion section (paragraph 2), the authors speculate that survey participants may not have seen the logic in the request to link this general survey with existing administrative health databases. I think there is value in appending to the manuscript the information brochure that was sent out to survey participants ahead of time, as that would give the reader an opportunity to see how the relationship between the survey and the request for linkage has been framed.

I look forward to seeing this publication in print.

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 I have no competing interests.