Reviewer's report

Title: Admission to hospital on a weekend has an increased risk of death: a retrospective database study of National Health Service hospitals in England

Version: 1 Date: 4 December 2011

Reviewer: Aaron Dumont

Reviewer's report:

The authors have examined for a potential effect of weekend versus weekday admission on mortality for patients admitted to all acute care hospitals in England. They demonstrate that weekend admission remained a significant predictor of death in hospital after appropriate adjustments.

Did the authors control for location of hospital (urban versus rural), income level, teaching hospital versus non-teaching hospital, etc? What co-morbidities are specifically included in this database?

The authors should emphasize what is novel or important about this work (especially compared to the prior study of Aylin et al. (reference 14 in the manuscript)).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.