Reviewer's report

Title: Are community-living and institutionalized dementia patients cared for differently? Evidence on service utilization and costs of care from German insurance claims data

Version: 3 Date: 17 December 2012

Reviewer: Hilde Verbeek

Reviewer's report:

I would like to thank the authors for their well written report and argumentation to my comments. In my opinion the manuscript has improved by the changes made and is now acceptable for publication.

Minor essential revision
Discussion, p 17: Please combine the separate paragraphs of one sentence to one paragraph (Despite its limitations up to In doing so....)

Discretionary revision
Method, p5. It would be helpful if the authors would add the first part of their explanation regarding dementia quarters in the manuscript: "Within the German SHI system physician report their diagnoses on a quarterly base. As a consequence the exact date of a diagnosis is unknown and the quarter of the year is the most exact point of reference". This would make the definition clearer to readers unfamiliar with the concept

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