Reviewer's report

Title: Practice characteristics and prior authorization costs: Secondary analysis of data collected in 9 Central New York primary care practices

Version: 2 Date: 30 January 2014

Reviewer: Michael A Fischer

Reviewer's report:

The authors have been responsive, but my basic concern about the data collected remains. Without some kind of validation of their event forms as a measure (which I do not think is possible since the data were collected in the past), I do not have confidence that they have captured with any accuracy the total time used in dealing with PA issues. Since the estimates of cost per practice flow from the time estimates, I find this to be a critical flaw that leaves me without a clear sense of how to interpret the results.