Reviewer's report

Title: Integration of rural and urban medical insurance schemes in China: an empirical research

Version: 3 Date: 11 February 2014

Reviewer: Martin Roland

Reviewer's report:

This paper remains really hard to understand.

It is improved somewhat from the previous version in terms of the things Dr Barber is concerned about, e.g. somewhat better structure etc. On the other hand some things have gone backwards, e.g. the use of abbreviations in the abstract. Just reading the abstract, it's pretty unintelligible. Reading the paper I can get some idea of what is meant by phrases like 'supporting the integration', but the authors could still be much clearer in describing what the paper is actually about.

There is an additional problem that the English is poor in places, in part because the authors make assumptions about what are probably fairly literal translations from the Chinese.

The paper could be a lot clearer, and would almost certainly be improved if they reduced it from 4300 words to 3000 words, focusing on very succinct aims and findings. The aims of the study (i.e. why its important) are still not really clear to someone who doesn't understand the Chinese health care system.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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'