Reviewer’s report

Title: Development and impact of the Iranian hospital performance measurement program

Version: 4 Date: 3 July 2014

Reviewer: Catherine GRENIER

Reviewer’s report:

only discretionary revisions
The question posed by the authors is very clear. It is particularly interesting because of the comprehensive, stable and original performance measurement system it is founded on.

The authors made good use of this Iranian experience, including a lot of available results. The quantitative data may include some biases, especially because of peer reviewer interests due to the national system itself. This limitation has been well expressed in the discussion, but may be usefully clarify in the abstract.

Moreover, even if data have been already published as written line 118, it will be relevant to know exactly the nature of assessment (process or results quality indicators and methodology of measurement) and if some controls have been implemented to assure validity and reliability of measurement to limit these biases.

Finally, the interpretation in this paper, which is not centered on the performance measurement methods but on its impact, is well balanced and supported by the data shown and this study remains interesting because such comprehensive experiences are pretty rare.

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’ below