Reviewer's report

Title: Changes in Practice Patterns Affecting In-Hospital and Post-Discharge Survival Among Acute Coronary Syndrome Patients

Version: 1 Date: 3 September 2006

Reviewer: Ian Scott

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached) Nil

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct) Nil

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore) 1. Is the question posed by the authors new and well defined? Yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described, and are sufficient details provided to replicate the work? Yes
3. Are the data sound and well controlled? Confounding is an issue as this was an observational study and there are statistically significant differences between cohorts in baseline clinical characteristics. However regression models have attempted to take these into account in comparing mortality hazard between them.
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? There could be more discussion about whether GAP independently influenced practice patterns or where the improvements in HARP cohort merely a continuation of secular trends observed between MICH 2 and MICH 1.
6. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes
7. Is the writing acceptable? Yes
No other comments.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests