Reviewer's report

Title: Assessing Record Linkage between Health Care and Vital Statistics Databases Using Deterministic Methods

Version: 3 Date: 15 March 2006

Reviewer: Tim Churches

Reviewer's report:

General

Although the results of this study are difficult to generalise to other record linkage settings, I feel that the study is worth publishing if only to encourage other researchers using record linkage techniques to think carefully about the accuracy of the linkage procedures which they have employed.

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

Given the limitations of the scope of this study, the authors have adequately addressed my major concerns.

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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)

None.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

None.

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests