Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of an antepartum Pap smear on the coverage of a cervical cancer screening programme: a population-based prospective study

Version: 3 Date: 16 September 2006

Reviewer: stefano ciatto

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)

the paper describes a fact: pregnancy is an opportunity for having a Pap smear. this is important but is somehow expected, as one might expect that gynecologic consultation (as in pregnancy) for any reason may promote screening. Unfortunately by no way we may use this information for a specific section to increase coverage. the author statement that we should recommend Pap smear in pregnancy has no specific motivation, not more than recommending that women must have Pap test every three years or any time they refer to a gynecological practice. Pregnancy is one of many situation which may be used to promote screening. The authors should discuss this aspect

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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)

no comments

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

no comments

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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 interest