Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of the emergency department for less-urgent care among type 2 diabetics under a disease management program

Version: 3 Date: 18 September 2009

Reviewer: Anke-Peggy Holtorf

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions
(The author can be trusted to make these. For example, missing labels on figures, the wrong use of a term, spelling mistakes.)

Page 3, Background, 1. Paragraph:
However, studies have concluded that type 2 diabetes is preventable, and patients with the disease can have a higher quality of life and themselves without suffering the chronic situation of high health care expenditures, if they follow their physician’s advice on diet, medicines, and lifestyle behaviours (3-5).
Comment: Unclear. Delete ‘and themselves’?

Diabetes is prevalent in Louisiana, and management of the disease is more challenging due to large low-income populations who may not follow guidelines strictly.
Comment: Delete ‘more’ – since there is no comparator

Page 10, 2nd paragraph: Another reason that those with insurance coverage are more likely to use the ED for less-urgent visits is the effect of moral hazard on use.
Comment: may instead of is?

Table 1
CCI/ Clinic Visits:
Comment: 22432 patients are 18.7% (and not 8.47)

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests