Reviewer's report

**Title:** Factors related to treatment intensity in Swiss primary care

**Version:** 3 **Date:** 24 October 2008

**Reviewer:** Barbara Starfield

**Reviewer’s report:**

This paper is greatly improved but the Abstract does not adequately convey all of the main findings.

If I read the paper correctly, things that should be added to the Results and Conclusions are:

1. the 'competition’ effect, wherein the presence of more specialists is associated with greater treatment intensity on the part of primary care physicians

2. The conclusions should mention treatment intensity and indicate which things are likely to have an impact on it (in addition to fee-for service payment method). That is, while fee-for services payment certainly facilitates higher intensity of treatment, other factors e.g. competition from specialists may also be operating.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**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.