Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparison of emergency department and hospital admissions data for air pollution time series studies

Version: 2 Date: 11 April 2012

Reviewer: Bin Jalaludin

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Although there have been numerous air pollution time series studies previously published in the scientific literature, methodological papers are relatively uncommon. The authors have compared the effects of ozone and PM2.5 on ED visits and hospitalisations using standardised datasets and time series statistical methods.

Major Compulsory Revisions
Nil major compulsory revisions.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Results section, last para, lines 10 and 11 – the authors state that the final models controlled for “...periods defined by hospital entries and exits”. It is not quite clear to me what is meant by this phrase and the authors should clarify what is meant.
2. Numbers less than 10 should be spelt out, eg. see Results section, para 1.

Discretionary Revisions
Nil 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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

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