Reviewer’s report

Title: Cause-specific mortality patterns among hospital deaths in Thailand

Version: 1 Date: 21 January 2010

Reviewer: Mohammad H. Forouzanfar

Reviewer’s report:

The study tries to define classification of death in hospitals in Thailand. Methodology of study is sound and results and discussion are relevant and well-presented.

Major Compulsory Revisions: Nothing

Minor Essential Revisions:

Please clarify more other causes. They get much from redistribution of garbage codes and consist more than 20 percent of causes of death. Please mention important causes in that group specially those that receive many from recoding death.

In table three, please sort both row and columns in similar way, so concordant codes can be tracked more easily. It is great if authors can propose a pattern in code change specially by putting groups prone to classification near each other.

Please explain and make it clear how change in codes is around 17 percent while at least 900 deaths are redistributed to other groups?

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