Reviewer's report

**Title:** A Cohort Study on the Incidence and Outcome of Pulmonary Embolism in Trauma and Orthopaedic patients

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 21 August 2013

**Reviewer:** George Zhang

**Reviewer's report:**

## Minor Essential Revisions

1. **Statistical analysis, pages 8-9**
   The section is recommended to be further extended and improved.
   For example, Median and IQR were not mentioned in this section but sometime reported in the text. The reasons were not mentioned.

   The unadjusted Odd Ratios were not reported. The multivariable logistic regression models were used to predict mortality of 13 deaths out of 85 patients, which seems too ambitious for such a small sample, including at least 3 predictors as in Table 7.

   How to evaluate if the model was fitted well?

2. **Fig 1**
   Lack of labels for 2 axes:
   one is AGE; the other is unclear, Frequency or Percentage?

3. **Table 1**
   It was improved but still not reported well, especially for the last column “Time of death after PE”.

   Top panel, e.g., there were exactly 112 (days) for each of all 3 patients with Spine?

   Only one number (112) was reported, then is the “Median: 112” in last line meaningful? Why so many blank / missing under this column?

   Bottom panel, what did “(5.9%) 21 days” after the last column mean?

4. **Table 3**
   Charlson Co-morbidity Index: Range 0-7.
   But in text: range: 0 – 10 (page 10).

5. **Table 7 and Figure 2**
   The logistic modeling process was not very clear. What’s your final model and
how many predictors/covariates in it?
If there only 3 predictors (Table 7), how to generate the Figure 2?
Is there an AGE-by-DVT interaction term in the model?

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

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