Reviewer’s report

Title: UK Waiting Time Targets In Lung Cancer Treatment: Are They Achievable? Results Of A Prospective Tracking Study

Version: 1 Date: 20 September 2006

Reviewer: Sudhir Lohani

Reviewer’s report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The following points need to be clarified:
1. What exactly do the authors mean when they say a simple or a complex patient management pathway? This needs to be clearly stated.
2. How many of the patients were in each of the above groups? How different was the average waiting time in each subgroup and was the difference significant?

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. The type of Hospital (whether University, district) and other on-site facilities i.e. bronchoscopy, thoracic surgery, radiology and PETscan need to be mentioned. I believe these factors will have impact on waiting times.
2. The full forms of the abbreviations used need to be mentioned: PQ, MDT, ICD etc.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory 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.