Reviewer's report

Title: Premature mortality in Belgium: how did it change over the last 15 years? An analysis of cause specific mortality for the period 1993-2009.

Version: 1  Date: 7 April 2014

Reviewer: Edwin Pelfrene

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting paper, particularly for all partners involved in the registration and interpretation of mortality statistics in Belgium. It is well designed and follows a clear line of reasoning.

Only Discretionary Revisions are required.

These mainly refer to some minor language problems/omissions. It is indicated in the copy of the paper here included (See Attachments -> doc; in MS Word).

In the Methods Section, some explanation on the use of tests for statistical significance being used is also required.

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:

No competing interests on my part.