Reviewer’s report

Title: Antihypertensive drug treatment changes in the general population. The CoLaus study

Version: 2 Date: 5 February 2014

Reviewer: Eric Dietrich

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Compulsory Revisions

- How will clinicians use the results of this study to improve their clinical practice? The brief discussion of the increase in ARBs is potentially important as it may lead to a continued increase in the use of ARBs as first line treatment (especially compared to diuretics).

- As BP data is available, it could be considered to discuss those who were classified as continuers who had uncontrolled BP - why was their therapy not escalated in order to control BP?

- If CV outcome data is available adding this information could be a significant strength (could not see if addressed following original comments as Author Cover letter was not available in link provided by Editorial staff). Importantly, CV outcome data would be important as it is the most clinically relevant outcome (as BP represents surrogate marker); if combined with rates of continuers, discontinuers, etc., it could help strengthen the need for better blood pressure control even if combination therapy is required. Also, comparisons between CV rates and initial/added therapy could be interesting.

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