Reviewer's report

Title: Efficiency and effectiveness evaluation of an automated multi-country patient count cohort system

Version: 2
Date: 13 February 2015

Reviewer: Atle Klovning

Reviewer's report:

When clicking the URL to the cover letter, I get "Response to reviews", it seems that this paper is submitted to another journal: "All authors have approved the manuscript and its submission to BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making." Either it has been submitted elsewhere, or rejected, and now resubmitted to the BMC Medical Research Methodology. Bearing this in mind, something seems to have gone wrong with the cover letter.

Also, I do not find the study question well-defined.
Are the terms efficiency effectiveness used correctly. In line 118 effectiveness = accuracy, and efficiency = time involved.
Not surprisingly, this evaluation shows low accuracy in record extraction due to low quality data in patient records.

This paper needs a major compulsory revision, meaning that diagnostic methods should be used: sensitivity, likelihood ratios etc. for the EHR4CR’s ability to extract eligible patients.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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