Reviewer's report

Title: Measurement of Skeletal Related Events in SEER-Medicare: A Comparison of Claims-Based Methods in Men with Metastatic Prostate Cancer

Version: 2 Date: 19 February 2015

Reviewer: Vera Ehrenstein

Reviewer's report:

This paper is well written and reporting is transparent. It addresses an important methodological issue in a thoughtful manner. I only have minor revisions.

Major compulsory revisions
NONE

Minor compulsory revisions
1. Consider reporting the range of follow-up time, in addition to the median. This will help place reported cumulative incidences in context.
2. Table 1 seems to be missing - I cannot locate the data on time from prostate cancer diagnosis to SRE.
3. The first paragraph of the discussion should summarize the most important findings.

Discretionary revisions
1. The authors may want to cite/discuss a validation of SRE algorithms in a different setting: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20865091

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:

Dear Editors,
Thank you for asking me to review the paper.
Disclosure: I am employed by Aarhus University, which receives research contracts from Amgen Inc. Some of the current contracts are related to medications used to prevent SRE in patients with bone metastases from solid tumors.
Best regards,
Vera Ehrenstein