Reviewer’s report

Title: Teleradiology in general practice has a positive impact on fracture diagnostics and treatment: a retrospective observational study

Version: 3 Date: 30 September 2014

Reviewer: Janet Hanley

Reviewer’s report:

Minor essential revisions
This is a descriptive before and after observational study of the introduction of X-ray facilities in an island-based General Practice. The conclusion is positive – fewer missed fractures and fewer unnecessary trips to the mainland, but at a cost of a greater proportion of people having X-rays. However, there is a large difference in the numbers treated in the two years considered - in 2009 there were 170 additional patients and 201 additional X-rays. To what extent are the additional patients those who would have gone directly to the hospital in previous years before X-ray was available on the island? Changing the capability of a service is likely to change the demand for it and this should be considered in this review. Otherwise I think the paper is interesting and well written and a useful addition to the telehealth literature.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

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