Reviewer's report

Title: To what extent does sociodemographic composition of the neighbourhood explain regional differences in demand of primary out-of-hours care? A multilevel study.

Version: 1 Date: 1 February 2015

Reviewer: Iain Brew

Reviewer's report:

1) Major compulsory revisions: None

2) Minor essential revisions: None

3) Discretionary revisions: line 64 suggest change to 'data for'; line 84 should be 'data were'; lines 90 and 249 suggest 'data from'; line 257 suggest 'data were'

The authors have taken care to exclude postal areas with small numbers of inhabitants and patients: such areas may have considerable variation in demographic. They have also excluded postal areas served by more than one co-operative, which will serve to reduce potential bias.

It was appropriate to break patients encounters down by age, gender, urgency, symptoms, socioeconomic and immigrant status and reasonable inferences have been made from these data

This study updates and affirms the current evidence base and anecdotal impressions of the usage of out of hours services in countries served by large co-operatives.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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