Reviewer's report

Title: A cross sectional study on the barriers and motivators for Asian women to attend opportunistic screening mammography

Version: 2 Date: 16 February 2015

Reviewer: David Roder

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting paper that explores the characteristics of women attending for opportunistic mammography screening at a Malaysian hospital. It seems to have been well conducted but I would be reassured if the analytical method be checked by a statistician.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
• The strength of the paper is its novel quality in exploring screening in Asia. Its limitations include the uncertain relevance of results from the study setting in a private hospital in Malaysia to Malaysia or Asia more broadly. I think the title should reflect this aspect by indicating that it relates to a single private hospital setting.
• Apart from general demographic characteristics such as age and ethnicity, there were no comparative data available on the profiles of women not attending for screening. This limitation should be made more explicit.

Discretionary Revisions:
• Another potential limitation was the donation of blood samples for research by women having a mammogram. Whether this would have affected participation levels and the profiles of participating women is not known.
• Line 54 refers to deaths in “Asian women”. But these GLOBOCAN data probably refer to women in Asia, irrespective of ethnicity. This needs checking.
• The meaning of Lines 78 and 79 is unclear to me. Could this be clarified?
• Lines 119 and 120 indicate that women who previously had breast surgery were excluded from the cluster analysis. Could the reason for this exclusion be stated?

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 i have no competing interests