Reviewer’s report

Title: A Basic Model for Assessing Primary Health Care Electronic Medical Record Data Quality

Version: 1 Date: 03 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Christopher Pearce

Reviewer’s report:

Thanks for the opportunity to read this interesting article. It is an excellent contribution to the field - and I have now read the article a few times to try and find things to say. None are significant. And they are...

The background is an excellent summary of the state of play. I’d argue that much of the discussion applies to hospital records as well, and in fact the issue is more around making data 'patient centred' rather than institution centred. Also the tenor of the discussion mentions only research, when in fact the potential uses are many.

In the discussion about different uses, the authors might find this discussion useful: 1. Liaw ST, Pearce CM, Liyanage H, Liaw GSS, de Lusignan S. An integrated organisation-wide data quality management and information governance framework: theoretical underpinnings. Informatics in primary care. 2014;21(4):199-206. It is a discussion about the different uses of data from clinical care to population health to research.

the article reflects the state of play for records, which is that there are no standards to inform appropriateness. I was struck by this in the discussion around height recording vs weight recording. Height is checked far less regularly than weight, for the clinical reason that height is less variable over time than weight.

Some elements assume or are dependant on Canadian systems - for instance the linking to billing data - which is particularly north american process. Such rigid linkage (diagnosis linked to billing) does not occur in the UK or Australia.

I would like a little more discussion about the nature of the extracts used. How much was coded, how much did they need to review free text etc.

None of these comments affect the overall impact of an excellent paper.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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