Reviewer’s report

Title: The introduction of Greek Central Health Fund: has the reform met its goal in the sector of Primary Health Care or a new model is needed?

Version: 4 Date: 23 October 2014

Reviewer: Anastas Philalithis

Reviewer’s report:

In the review of the first version, I wrote that:

“The paper under review is an interesting and useful paper since it illustrates an important aspect of the reforms that were implemented in the health services of Greece during the financial crisis and it makes proposals regarding their reorganization. However, the paper needs substantial rewriting in order to (a) acquire a better structure and (b) to substantially improve the quality of the English language. More specifically, this paper (a) describes the changes implemented in the obligatory, public health insurance sector and in the delivery of Primary Health Care (PHC), (b) reviews the organization of PHC in selected countries, (c) presents the results of an analysis of the cost of services delivered and (d) makes proposals for a new financing and reimbursement scheme for PHC in Greece. The four elements described above should be more clearly presented, in well-defined sections of the paper, while the review of PHC in selected countries should be reduced to a minimum, since the material can be found elsewhere. In addition, the reform described in the paper has been partially superseded by a second reform, the separation of the delivery part of the EOPYY organization into a separate service, the PEDY, that was integrated into the National Health System (ESY). This second reform should be described and its relevance commented on”.

In the new version, the authors have taken all recommendations into account. They have also responded to all the specific points raised in the point by point review, as set out in the supporting document they have submitted.

I am pleased to recommend acceptance of the paper, with only one proviso: some (fine) language editing is still required. Does the journal have the capacity to do it?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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