Reviewer's report

Title: An Interrupted Time Series Analysis on the Impact of Accreditation on Hospital Quality Measures.

Version: 3 Date: 17 January 2014

Reviewer: Stuart Whittaker

Reviewer's report:

The article makes far reaching assumptions on the process of accreditation, which cannot be substantiated, based on the evidence provided by a study of a single hospital.

There was a significant increase in the percentage compliance to quality measures as the facility prepared for accreditation from 72% to > 90% which was maintained during the study period with small variations.

It is not clear whether the small negative changes in quality measures were due to random variation, and what their impact was on patient care. However, the maintenance of high percentage compliance > 90% throughout the study period is a positive finding which was not mentioned.

The United Arab Emirates is a wealth country and cannot be compared to developing countries. Accreditation in a developing country may have a different impact. This study has not taken this into account.

Although the Interrupted Time Series method approach is promising, it needs to be applied in different settings with sufficient sample sizes to allow for meaningful analysis.

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

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