

Subject: BMJ - Decision on Manuscript ID BMJ.2014.024391.R1

Body: 29-Apr-2015

Dear Dr. Chung:

Manuscript ID BMJ.2014.024391.R1 entitled "Comparison of hospital variation in acute myocardial infarction care and outcome between Sweden and the United Kingdom" which you submitted to BMJ,

Thank you for sending us this paper and giving us the chance to consider your work, which we enjoyed reading.

Decision: Provisional acceptance

We are pleased to say that we would like to publish it in the BMJ as long you are willing and able to revise it as we suggest in below. We are provisionally offering acceptance but will make the final decision when we see the revised version.

three editors and the statistical reviewer reviewed the revised version. We think the manuscript has been greatly improved by the revision. However, we still have some questions about the study.

* We need more information about the nature of patients being missed by registries and in particular whether the missing groups in both countries are similar. Can you reassure us that missed patients are indeed similar to those included and that there are no differences between countries?

* Sweden has 1.5 times higher admission rates for AMI, but the registries include two times more Swedish patients as UK patients, suggesting that there is still a substantial portion of UK patients left out of the comparison. Do you have more info on the higher admission rates in Sweden ? Is this really based on higher AMIs, or are there more hospital beds in Sweden and thus more (and healthier) patients are admitted to the hospital?

* In your latest response to reviewers you mention that "The key point is that patients not included in the registries usually have more comorbidities with a worse outcome, thus the nature of any bias is conservative: the true difference in hospital outcome and variation may be greater in the UK than Sweden than is reported in the manuscript." Can you please provide a reference or other evidence to back up this claim?

Deadline: Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to BMJ, your revised manuscript should be submitted by one month from today's date. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision by this date, we may have to consider your paper as a new submission.

Yours sincerely

Jose Merino
jmerino@bmj.com,

Reviewer: 1

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors have responded to couple of minor queries raised in my review. There are no outstanding issues remaining.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Gary Collins

Job Title: Associate Professor

Institution: University of Oxford

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

If you have any competing interests ([please see BMJ policy](#)) please declare them here:

END

Date Sent: 29-Apr-2015
