

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Risk factors for recurrent injurious falls that require hospitalization for older adults with dementia: a population based study

**Version: 0 Date:** 15 Feb 2016

**Reviewer:** Adesola Ogunniyi

### **Reviewer's report:**

The authors carried out a retrospective analysis of admission records of over 32,000 dementia patients who had severe injurious falls. Appropriate analysis was done. The study showed increased risk in female subjects and age association. Although a retrospective data analysis, the authors did not include the injuries sustained. Subdural haematoma is a known cause of dementia following even trivial trauma, it would have been appropriate to mention this in the discussion. There was no mention of how dementia was diagnosed - the instruments and disease severity. It would have been useful if there was some information on the duration of dementia - acute vs. chronic disease. These issues point to the challenges of retrospective analysis for a condition like falls in the elderly. The authors alluded to the fact that there were no records of medications which are known to add to the risk of falling in older individuals.

#### **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.

No

#### **Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**

If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

#### **Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**

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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