Reviewer's report

Title: Variations in cardiovascular disease under-diagnosis in England: national cross-sectional spatial analysis

Version: 1 Date: 10 January 2011

Reviewer: Abdishakur Abdulle

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The subject study aims to compare between expected prevalence (model-based) and observed/diagnosed prevalence of three cardiovascular conditions i.e. coronary heart disease (CHD), hypertension and stroke in an English population. The study also investigated geographical variations, as well as healthcare predictors which might influence diagnosis in a cross-sectional observational data in all English local authorities (351) and general practices (8,372).

Overall, the article is well written with acceptable introduction, methods, results, and discussion. The article provides interesting information in understanding the existing burden of under diagnosis of three major chronic diseases in England and possibly elsewhere.

Minor Essential Revisions:

Abstract

1. Spell out “GP” in the abstract
2. Authors may consider a thorough revision of the punctuation – example - abstract/ results/ line three, remove the comma.
3. Observed (O) and expected (E) should be spelled out in the abstract as is the case in the results.

Results

Table 1.
The prevalence of CHD, HTN, STROKE is indicated as crude total numbers. It would be better to rather indicate the actual “prevalence rate” in the table.

Spell out “CHD”, “O:E Ration”, and “IQR” at the bottom of the table in consistence with table 2..

Table 2.
Round the figures to the nearest two digit or maximum three digit.

Remove the “%” sign in the tables and insert them in the headings/ sub headings.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests