Reviewer's report

Title: Do smoking, alcohol consumption, physical activity, and family history have different effects on the risks of acute myocardial infarction and unstable angina pectoris? A prospective cohort study

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Reviewer: Marcus Dörr

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My only specific comment refers to the first answer concerning the differences between AMI and UAP: The authors state that “The clinical presentation of patients with AMI or UAP depends on the degree of occlusion of the coronary artery. In case of an AMI, the coronary artery is completely and persistently occluded by a thrombus after plaque disruption. In case of UAP, however, the occlusion is caused by a labile thrombus that may not completely occlude the coronary artery or may lead to an early re-opening of the artery.” This statement is (partially) true for the comparison of UAP and STEMI. Differentiation between UAP and NSTEMI, however, is much more complicated. In many cases, underlying pathophysiology of UAP and NSTEMI may be quite similar and the only difference is elevation of myocardial enzymes (see ESC definition of MI and my second comment of the first review). Thus, the respective paragraph should be written more carefully.

Over all, Merry et al. have addressed the important review questions and have modified the manuscript accordingly. I like very much the idea of adding brief summaries to the table legends. This makes it much easier to focus on the most important findings (Indeed the amount of data presented in this manuscript is extraordinary large, although I did not mention this point in my first review).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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