Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of peripheral arterial disease in subjects with moderate cardiovascular risk: Italian results from the PANDORA study

Version: 1 Date: 14 May 2011

Reviewer: Ken-ichi Aihara

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Sanna et al. demonstrated that Italian subjects with cardiovascular risk factors manifest high prevalence of asymptomatic PAD diagnosed by low ABI. In addition, they also found that statin treatment is an independent preventive factor for the development of PAD.

Although their study seems to have some clinical significance for promoting public health in Italia, there are some concerns to confirm the results.

1. The authors should explain why they excluded diabetes subjects in this study.
2. Table 1 is needed to add several clinical values such as prevalence of hypertension, dyslipidemia, cigarette smoking, family history of early CHD, statin treatment and serum lipids profile.
3. Figure 1 indicated the odds ratio of prevalence of PAD in European countries, including Italy, Greece, France, Switzerland, Belgium and Netherland. The authors need to demonstrate a brief summary table of clinical characteristics of the each country.
4. Additional discussion is needed to speculate the reason why marital status influenced on the prevalence of PAD.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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.