Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and Correlates of Lower Extremity Peripheral Artery Disease among Adult Diabetic patients in Southwestern Uganda.

Version: 1
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Reviewer: Moniek van Zitteren

Reviewer's report:

The authors nicely evaluated the prevalence and correlates of diabetic patients with PAD in Southwestern Uganda. These results add to the current knowledge of diabetic patients with PAD, specifically in this particular region.

Major compulsory revisions:
1. In the discussion of the manuscript the authors describe the epidemiology of PAD among diabetics vs. non-diabetics in Uganda. It would be helpful to include this information in the introduction of your manuscript to help the reader understand the rationale for including diabetics only.

Minor essential revisions:
1. Introduction (page 4, last paragraph): in what population would the prevalence of PAD be similar (e.g., in patients with/without diabetes? in a general population setting?)
2. Methods (page 5, study design and population):
   - Please also specify any exclusion criteria after specifying your inclusion criteria.
   - From the rest of the manuscript it is clear that this study focuses on type 2 diabetic patients, but it would be helpful to add this to the inclusion criteria as well.
3. Methods (page 5, data collection): The authors used the ECQ to assess symptoms of claudication. It would be helpful to add information on the sensitivity/specificity of the ECQ in English and Runyankore.
4. Methods (page 7, definitions): The definition of having typical and atypical symptoms of PAD according to the ECQ is missing. Please consider to add this to the definitions.
5. Methods (page 8):
   - It would be helpful for the readers to understand what variables were included in the statistical models so that the analysis is reproducible for others. Please explain what variables were included.
   - Were there any missing values? And how did the authors decide to deal with missing data? Please add this information to the manuscript.
6. Results (page 8): The number 18/88 seems incorrect as the other numbers are referring to a total of 55 patients?
7. Page 18 (Table 2): BMI and waist-to-hip ratio are newly introduced variables in this table, please make sure that all variables are defined in the methods section of the manuscript.

Discretionary revisions:

1. In most studies on PAD, the number of males included is higher as compared with the number of females included. The results of the abstract indicate that about 64% of the patients were female. This is a surprising finding. Do the authors have any thoughts about this?

2. Methods (page 7, definitions):
   - Remove "<" prior to 0.71 and 0.4 in the sentence "We considered...having severe PAD".
   - Please add "medical" to "We defined any patient with PAD as on appropriate medical therapy for PAD..." as it seems that the authors solely refer to medical therapy options.

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.