Reviewer's report

Title: Medication prescribing for asthma and COPD: a register-based cross-sectional study in Swedish primary care

Version: 2 Date: 7 January 2014

Reviewer: Siebrig Schokker

Reviewer's report:

minor essential revisions

in general: the use of asthma medication or medication indicated for asthma and COPD throughout the whole article might be confusing. The authors mean medications prescribed/indicated for asthma and/or COPD. So the wording asthma medication in my opinion has to be avoided.

Abstract, methods section: first sentence. Adding group A and group B within bracket before the number might be appreciated.

Abstract, Results, first sentence. no dash between asthma and medication, but consider to change the wording asthma medication (see comment above).

Abstract, Results:
The readability of this section might be improved to refer to group A and B. I see no data on undertreatment, based on the results of group B (or combination of group A and B). Is this correct?

Abstract, Results:
last sentence. The sentence on missed recording is making no sence to me? what do the authors mean by this and is it important to mention in the abstract (where in the manuscript do I find this figure).

Introduction.
first paragraph, last sentence: in my opinion this sentence is confusing and not necessary.

Introduction
last paragraph, last sentence:
change "used" into "indicated"

Methods, analysis

with regard to the categorization. Patients with both COPD and asthma were included in the COPD recorded diagnoses in the random sample analyses. While in the Group A and B analyses, these patients were mentioned as a separate (asthma and COPD category). Why did the authors choose for this? It might be
better to also present data on this overlap category in the results part of the random sample (including the tables and figure).

Methods, statistical methods:
lst sentence. This sentence might be replaced to the study population part below figure 1.

Results.
Refer to group A and group B in the text might increase readability of this part.
By example in the paragraph below Table 1 add group A within brackets and the next paragraph starting with An asthma diagnosis may be changed into The results from group B demonstrated.....

Results
paragraph below figure 2, last sentence. This seems to obvious for me, so either delete this sentence or rewrite with most important finding. A diagnosis of COPD is related to age, so the information that COPD rises in pt older than 30 in my opinion is not necessary to mention.

Results, random sample, last paragraph, last sentence:
similar results are reported in our previous study can be deleted here, since this is also mentioned in the discussion.

Discussion, first paragraph, last sentence.
Please be more specific in what you mean with it should also be observed?

Discussion, 7th paragraph. A full stop before the last sentence is missing.

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' below