Reviewer's report

Title: Depression after low-energy fracture in older women predicts future falls: A prospective observational study

Version: 1 Date: 13 July 2011

Reviewer: Jaspreet Kaur

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Major Points
1) Suspects from only two hospitals limits the study’s credibility unless the author is trying to search for a local problem, which seems to not be the case.
2) Additionally to EDS, another more to the population geared scale should be included, such as the Geriatric Depression Scale to better assess for risk factors.
3) Although the subjects were initially chosen due to their injury, when the characteristics are being assessed at baseline, falls ought to be questioned and categorized more in detail, such as type of fall, differentiation between number of falls within 6, 12, and 18months, need of medical treatment due to the respective fall.
4) There is a substantial lack of analysis and explanation of falls related to depression. The article focused too much on the medical aspect of fractures leading to falls in elderly. More attention should be invested into depression versus co-morbidities, not fracture/falls versus co morbidity, and why depression ultimately leads to falls.

Minor:
1) In results, an interesting and verifying correlation to be made between falls and married or single individuals or individuals with family support is also of great significance. This data can be used for the logistic regression analyses.
2) Besides tables at the end, better visual charts or graphs should be included right after the methods or results section for easier explanatory illustrations preventing repetitive phrasing that conveys a dry and unattracti

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.