Reviewer's report

Title: Risk of death or hospital admission among community-dwelling older adults living with dementia in Australia

Version: 2  Date: 28 March 2014

Reviewer: Taro Kojima

Reviewer's report:

Dear the authors,

The purpose of the study was reasonable and worth studying though the result was confusing and not very sure whether this data were appropriate to analyze for this purpose. Specific points are raised below.

Major compulsory revisions

1. According to the result shown in the top paragraph of page 10, 25 people out of 30 death occurred in the first 6 months and it seems that 8 out of 9 hospitalizations occurred in the first 6 months. Without any explanation, it is difficult to understand why most of the events occurred in the first 6 months from a clinical perspective. This observation would have considerable impact on the present analysis.

2. The number of incidence of death and hospitalization shown in the top paragraph of page 10 should be included in “Results”, not in “Methods”.

3. The results of univariate Cox regression analysis are insufficient. The authors described only p-values for merely 4 factors, but HR should be described, and for important variables even though they are not statistically significant.

Minor essential revisions

1. Why are non-elderly indigenous people included in this study?
2. In table 1, “0-64” (age) should be “50-64”.

Discretionary revisions

1. The treatment status should have had influence on the participants’ death or hospitalization but is not assessed in the present study.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.