Reviewer's report

Title: Symptom burden in community-dwelling older people with multimorbidity: a cross-sectional study

Version: 3 Date: 11 October 2014

Reviewer: Stefano Volpato

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
One of the strength of the paper is the inclusion of people with multimorbidity. Nevertheless the authors did not organise the analysis in order to take advantage of this important characteristics of the study population.
I suggest the author to:
1) Describe the most common combinations of diseases in the populations
2) Investigate prevalence and symptoms experience
3) Use combination or cluster of diseases as predictors of TMAS.

The cross-sectional design of the study must be mentioned among the limitation of the study.

Minor Essential revision.
The manuscript is probably too long. In particular the introduction and the results section could be shortened. In the results sections the author described almost all the results presented in the tables and there is too much overalapp between text and tables. I suggest to summarize the most interesting results and simply referring to the appropriate tables for the others.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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