Reviewer's report

Title: Higher Anti-Depressant Dose and Major Adverse Outcomes in Moderate Chronic Kidney Disease: A Retrospective Population-Based Study

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Reviewer: Pierre Delanaye

Reviewer's report:

Dev and colleagues studied in a large cohort of patients the effect of different dose of anti-depressant on major clinical outcomes. The topic is certainly of interest and clearly understudied. The article is well written and the results are clearly exposed. There are limitations to this study but these limitations are fairly discussed. The results are not really expected but this remains of interest and will probably stimulate further research in the field.

We have the following comments/suggestions:

1) The way the authors estimate GFR should be more explicated. I suppose the authors used the CKD-EPI equation to estimate GFR. A specific equation has been recently proposed for elderly subjects (Schaeffner E, Ann Intern Med 2012). This equation has a better performance and notably a better precision. It could be of interest to know if conclusions remain the same if this equation is used.

2) In the same vein, the authors used a specific algorithm for the CKD diagnosis. We do not question the validity of this algorithm. However, it would be of interest to know if conclusions were the same if the “classical” KDIGO classification for CKD was used.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests