Reviewer's report

Title: Characteristics, survival, and related factors of newly diagnosed colorectal cancer patients refusing cancer treatments under a universal health insurance program

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Reviewer: Rhay-Hung Weng

Reviewer's report:

This paper examines characteristics, survival, and related factors of newly diagnosed colorectal cancer patients refusing cancer treatments program in Taiwan. This is a very interesting and important study for the readers of BMC Cancer. The research methods are described clearly and reasonably. The overall results are good. Overall, the paper does make a sufficient contribution to global health environments and the study results could provide useful information for health care professionals. There are some comments to make the paper clearer below.

1. Please explain which database each variable does come from in the section of Data Collection.

2. Please provide more information on the practical implications for health care professional in the section of Conclusion.

3. This study only explored limited factors in the analysis model. The authors should provide some statement about this research limitation.

4. Stylistic Comments: BMC Cancer style requirements on the reference list were not consistently followed, e.g. “Alan Radley & Sheila Payne” should be “Alan R & Sheila”.

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.