Reviewer's report

Title: Trends in Dermatomyositis- and Polymyositis-Related Mortality in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1985-2007: Multiple Cause-of-Death Analysis

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Reviewer: Tiziana Cassetti

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
   Yes

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
3. Are the data sound?
   Yes

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
   Yes

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
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6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
   No

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   The authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
   Yes

9. Is the writing acceptable?
   I think the manuscript is acceptable

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.
Declaration of competing interests:

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• Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper, either now or in the future? No

• Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript? Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript? No

• Do you have any other financial competing interests? No

• Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper? No