Reviewer's report

Title: Decreasing trends in cardiovascular mortality in Turkey between 1988 and 2008

Version: 1 Date: 15 May 2013

Reviewer: Patrick Brzoska

Reviewer's report:

Review of the manuscript “Decreasing trends in cardiovascular mortality in Turkey between 1988 and 2008” re-submitted to BMC Public Health by Dinç, Sözmen, Gerçeklioğlu, Arık, Critchley and Ünal.

The authors improved their manuscript considerably and addressed many of the comments made by the second reviewer and me in the first review.

After some essential revisions with respect to language and table formatting (see the list below, which is not exhaustive) publication can be considered.

Language:

p.4, para 1, line 10: “…estimates that there…”
p.6, para. 3: use commas instead of semicolons and consider writing “…and an address…”.
p.7, line 1: “…only for the years…”
p.11, para. 2, line 1: consider writing “limitations are attached”
p.11, para. 2, line 6: “support”
p.12, para. 1, line 14: “has”
p.13, para. 1, line 2: “access”; line 3: “areas”; line 4: “underestimation”
p.13, para. 2, line 9: “for those”
p.14, para. 3: line 4: “countries”
p.14, para. 3: line 12: “of Europe”

The terms gender/sex should be used consistently.

Tables:

Tab. 1 (supp1.doc): inconsistent capitalization (“Mortality”, “Stroke” etc.)
Add missing brackets for formula in footnote “**”.
I assume “***” should be deleted after “Estimated annual percentage change”.
As the third column of Tab. 1 is not referred to in the text and is also not included in Tab. 2/3, the authors could consider deleting it.
The tables should be numbered according to the order they appear in the manuscript (The first table that is mentioned in the manuscript is Appendix-Table 3 [see p. 6]).

The caption “Accuracy parameters” of Tab. 3 in the appendix is confusing. As far as I understand it, the table shows the proportions of deaths coded as “Ill defined (senility and symptom related deaths)” or “other heart diseases”. The caption, therefore, should be accordingly.

Use consistent captions for Tab. 1 to 3 (information on the respective standard population in Tab. 2/3 could be added or Tab. 1 could be shortened).

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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