Reviewer’s report

Title: Epidemiology of idiopathic inflammatory myopathies among commercially insured, Medicare supplemental insured, and Medicaid enrolled populations: an administrative claims analysis

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Reviewer: Umesh A Badrising

Reviewer’s report:

The authors describe the (adjusted) figures on incidence and prevalence of adult PM/DM and interstitial myositis in 3 large USA dynamic cohorts based on medical claims databases. They found a higher incidence and prevalence figure than previously found based on muscle biopsy/medical record case finding. Their prevalence rate is similar to that found in Canada which was also based on medical claims administration.

The paper is well-written. The short-commings are clearly outlined. The methods are well-described.

Discretionary Revisions:

1. The authors also found a shift from DM to PM being the most prevalent/incident form of myositis in contrast to the reports referenced in their "Background"). Can they comment on this finding in their discussion?

2. About 10% of patients had a malignancy in the year prior to the index date. Was there a preference for certain malignancies and were they more related to one of the 3 IIM forms? What were the frequencies/types of malignancies in the year after the index date?

3. Pg 18, "Therefore....population". Unclear sentence.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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