Reviewer’s report

Title: Health care consumption and costs due to foot and ankle injuries in the Netherlands, 1986-2010

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Reviewer: Charles M Court-Brown

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I think that this is a very interesting paper. It is difficult to get access to well constructed databases and these databases seem to be good. The authors accept that there are inevitable minor problems but I think the data they present is accurate.

They separate ligamentous and osseous pathology which is sensible. It is clear that all pathologies increase with age but I think it would be very interesting to know the separate average age of patients with ligamentous and bony ankle and foot injuries. It is likely that the average age for ankle fractures in particular has gone up since 1986 and the same may be the case for the other pathologies. It would us to know if we can expect the average of the patients to continue to rise. I would have thought the calculation of average ages would be easy.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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:

I declare that I have no competing interests.