Reviewer's report

Title: Combining Glycosylated Hemoglobin A1c and Fasting Plasma Glucose for Diagnosis of Type 2 Diabetes in Chinese Adults

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Reviewer: Hillary Keenan

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting and potentially important paper by Mo et al regarding the screening criteria for type 2 diabetes in adults living near Shanghai, China. They conclude that a combination of fasting plasma glucose and glycosylated glucose are the most valuable cost-efficient tools with relatively good sensitivity and specificity for screening. For the most part, they have done well in defining the population, explaining their methodology and writing the manuscript with small exceptions which can be ameliorated.

Compulsory Revision:
1. Due to the relatively low end participation rate at 56%; please provide a brief description of data collected on those (those not examined) individuals, or at an ecologic level (equivalent to census tract) who did not participate. Comment on disparities in traits between groups that may affect the conclusion.
2. The ROC is the most common method of graphical demonstration of proxy for a gold standard. An overlay plot of the different diagnostic criterion examined would be informative.
3. Please explain how the investigators performed the OGTT after determining the FPG of the subject- was this done at the same visit or at follow-up, was there drop-out? Please indicate the level of participation.

Minor Revision
1. Spelling and other minor grammar errors
2. Please re-write the sensitivity calculation method as it is not clear.
3. Please label what the p-value in brackets represents in the tables.

Discretionary Revision
1. The authors could make brief, summary, mention of the ability to detect "pre-diabetes" in the text, but these sections of the tables with are not necessary. The authors need to decide the value of predicting this outcome with the measures or excluding completely.

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