Reviewer's report

Title: Need and disparities in primary care quality of managed care for patients with diabetes.

Version: 2 Date: 22 April 2014

Reviewer: Rohini Mathur

Reviewer's report:

This paper reports on differences in the prevalence and management of diabetes in primary care according to age, gender, diagnostic latency, co-morbidity and citizenship.

The authors have access to a large database with high numbers of diabetic cases, which allows for a breadth of between group comparisons to be made.

Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors should state at the beginning of the paper that they are looking only at type 2 diabetes- this is not mentioned until the end of the discussion.

The regression analysis consistently shows lower adherence to patient management measures for patients from HMPC countries. This appears to be a major finding which has great impact for future resource planning, and targeting of diabetes care. The paper would be strengthened if the conclusions made specific recommendations to address this potentially modifiable disparity.

Minor Essential Revisions

Spelling mistake: p9 discussion: Maily should be mainly

Discretionary Revisions:

It would be useful for the international reader to know how representative the study population are of the general population.

Prescribing is also a critical quality of care measure- did the authors have access to these data, and did prescribing practices also yield any disparities?

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:
I declare that I have no competing interests