**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Appendicectomies in Albanians in Greece: outcomes in a highly mobile immigrant patient population

**Authors:**
- Athina Tatsioni (athina73@otenet.gr)
- Antonia Charchanti (me00527@cc.uoi.gr)
- Evangelia Kitsiou (jioannid@cc.uoi.gr)
- John P.A. Ioannidis (jioannid@cc.uoi.gr)

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**Reviewer:** Prof Klim McPherson

**Level of interest:** A paper of considerable general medical or scientific interest

**Advice on publication:** Accept after revision, which I do not need to see

An interesting article that represent original research into an important area of health provision. The study is novel and the design interesting.

The result show a perplexing surfeit of negative appendicectomies among (designated) Albanian male immigrants to Greece.

I would be inclined to define what a negative appendectomy is earlier in your presentation. I would also skip some of the statistical discussion

- which relate to moderately routine aspects of your study; for example on number of controls and use of conditional likelihood for matche designs.

But I do think the readers ought to have more explanation about why turning a case control study inside out does not affect the inference. That is taking

Albanians as cases and seeing if they differ from Greek controls is clearly sensible but may confuse many people who have been tought that

cases are people with disease!

Alos Table 1 is horribly difficult to understand and make any sense out of , principally because of this inversion.

Might you be inclined to offer plausible explanations for your findings. At one point you say the women arrive once the men are settled and that they

therefore have been in Greece for longer . This on the face of it is not a plausible explanation for the lower effect size among women.
Competing interests:

None declared.