Reviewer's report

Title: Type II diabetics in primary care: profiles of healthcare utilisation

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Reviewer: Lennarth Nyström

Reviewer's report:

This is an excellent paper on an important issue. Type 2 diabetes (T2D) will be one of the challenges for Ministry of Health not only in developed but also in developing countries.

The authors attempt to characterise diabetes patients with respect to healthcare utilisation. That is of course interesting if you make something out of it. The authors must better clarify the interpretation of their study to assist health planners etc. Will it in the future identify T2D patients at diagnosis or with a diabetes duration of x years and then allocate them to a program or........

Methods

One of the tricky things is classification of type of diabetes in patients below <35 years. In Sweden 75% are T1D, 15% T2D and 10% difficult to classify at diagnosis. How was these patients diagnosed. Is it routine to check for antibodies and c-peptide to be able to decide whether it is a T1D or T2D

Statistical analysis

In logistic regression analysis it is important that the reference group is large enough, otherwise the comparison categories will have wide confidence intervals. In Table 3 Age group 18-34 has to be merged with 35-44 to get a reference category that is large enough (Just look at the enormously wide confidence intervals).

Finally, there are statistical methods for classification of cases. Apply this method to see how many that are correctly classified as profile 1, 2 and 3!

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests!