Reviewer’s report

Title: Co- and multimorbidity patterns in primary care based on episodes of care: results from the German CONTENT project

Version: 3 Date: 25 September 2007

Reviewer: Martin Fortin

Reviewer’s report:

General
The authors have been very responsive to the comments made by the reviewers. The paper has been improved substantially.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
Some editing still required with a special attention on the numbers and the punctuation.

Other comments:
1- Page 10, paragraph 2, it says “there are of couple of detailed and validated morbidity indexes”. The correct expression is “…a couple of”, however, this expression is often used to denote a very small number, which is not the case for the number of indexes available. Also, the authors are talking about multimorbidity or co-morbidity and not just morbidity. I would change the expression “…a couple of” for another word like “several”, or change the sentence for something like “…detailed and validated co-morbidity indexes have been described”.

2- In the text, the authors always refer to multimorbidity as defined by the number of chronic conditions. In Table 2, it is written “Different chronic conditions”. To be consistent, the word “different” should be replaced by “number” in columns 1 and 2 of Table 2.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance 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