Reviewer’s report

Title: The MEDEA FAR-EAST study Conceptual framework, methods and first findings of a multicenter cross-sectional observational study

Version: 0 Date: 23 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Paul Jennings

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript entitled: "The MEDEA FAR-EAST study Conceptual framework, methods, and first findings of a multicentre cross-sectional observational study."

Title

1. I don't think the reference to a 'conceptual framework' needs to be included in the title, as this is not really presented in any detail in the study proper. Also, there is no novel methods used in this study so would remove reference to methods also.

Abstract

1. Appropriate and reflects the article

Background

1. Appropriate and provides a good background to the study.

2. Page 2, Line 10: A timeframe needs to be added to the incidence reported.

Methods

1. Page 5, Line 132. There are two sections presenting information on sample size; here and Page 8, Line 1 ("2.6 Sample Size Calculation"). This content should be merged into one section. (Perhaps separate sample size and drop out analysis?).

2. Page 5, Line 54. Include p value associated with test of statistical significance here and throughout, whenever reporting statistical significance.

3. Page 8, Line 6. Sample size calculation refers to multivariate analysis, however there are no MV analyses throughout manuscript. Please check sample size calcs.
Results

1. Page 8, Line 45. Figure 1 should be labelled as figure 2.
2. Page 9, Line 43. Actual p value should be reported throughout (rather than p>0.5).
3. The numbers / differences between sites should be included within results.

Discussion

1. The discussion reads well and appears to reflect the findings.

References

1. There are lots of references. Could be culled somewhat.

Tables / Figures

1. Tables are reasonable and add to the manuscript.
2. Figures 2 and 3; x axis intervals are not mutually exclusive (ie 35-40, 40-45, etc). These should be rectified.

Overall, an interesting qualitative study. There are a number of grammatical and typographical errors throughout the manuscript which will need to be tidied up.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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