Reviewer’s report

Title: Patient motives for contacting out-of-hours care in Denmark: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 03 Sep 2019

Reviewer: David Cone

Reviewer's report:

Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

General Comments:

It is stated that "new knowledge in this field may guide patients in choosing the most relevant service for their health problem[s]" - but the paper is targeted at clinicians, not the general public.

How were patients handled who did not contact EMS or out-of-hours primary care themselves? For example, a bystander calls 1-1-2 after witnessing a serious motor vehicle collision, and four patients are transported by EMS to various EDs with various injuries. Are these patients included in the study? "Bystander calls" are mentioned in the "Data collection" section, but I cannot tell how these were handled.

The "Conclusions" section doesn't really say anything - adding phrases with some of the key motive and factors would be helpful.

Minor copy-editing comments:

'Health care' is two words, per the AMA Style Guide.

I am generally averse to creating new acronyms just to save some typing - I recommend dropping non-standard acronyms such as "OOH-PC" and "OOH" and just writing out the words.

I recommend changing 'gender' to 'sex' throughout the paper, since biological male/female (sex - as in item 2 of the questionnaire) was studied and reported, not individual psychosocial self-identification (gender).
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.

Yes

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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