Reviewer’s report

Title: Primary Care Physician Referral Patterns in Ontario, Canada: A Descriptive Analysis of Self-Reported Referral Data

Version: 0 Date: 19 May 2017

Reviewer: Mark Harris

Reviewer’s report:

This cross-sectional study of referrals from 20 primary care clinics in Ontario may be of interest in Canada where there have been few studies of this sort. However, to be of interest to an international audience, it needs to be contextualised with information on the frequency of reasons for consultation and by comparison to data from other countries. There have been, for example, studies in Australia, UK and New Zealand on referral rates from primary care that could provide a comparison (1-3). There also needs to be data on what proportion of consultations with these presentations or diagnoses were referred (e.g. what proportion of patients with neurological conditions were referred over the period of the study).

References


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.

No
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?
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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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