Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors associated with the use of Dietary Supplements and Over-the-counter Medications in Japanese Elderly Patients

Version: 0 Date: 05 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Tsuyoshi Chiba

Reviewer's report:

Author showed that the prevalence of dietary supplements and OTC drugs were associated with sex, education and economic status in elderly patients with chronic disease. It is important information to prevent the adverse effects by using dietary supplements and OTC drugs with prescribed medicines. However, several points are needed to improve in this manuscript.

Comments

・Author should defined what is dietary supplement in this manuscripts. The definition of dietary supplements in Japan may be different from that in the USA.

・In addition, author described both OTC drugs and dietary supplements as non-prescribed medication. However, OTC drugs and dietary supplements are totally different and should not treat as same. In this regard, author have to analyze OTC drugs and dietary supplements, respectively.

・Author described which kind of disease they defined chronic disease. It is important information, because each disease must be treated by different prescribed medicines.

・I would recommend that the questionnaire itself as well as an English translation be reviewed & published as supplemental material to this paper so that future researchers can see precisely what was used.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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.

No

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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