Reviewer’s report

Title: The increasing importance of a continence nurse specialist to improve outcomes and save costs of urinary incontinence care: an analysis of future policy scenarios

Version: 0 Date: 12 Sep 2016

Reviewer: Weng Yee Chin

Reviewer’s report:

This is an important study which deserves to be published. Cost effectiveness studies which model to predict future costs are important for health policy planning and decision making about allocation of health resources and models of care.

Overall, the paper is generally overall written, but needs to be extensively proof read and copy edited to enhance the language. There are multiple grammatical and typographical mistakes, some of which I have highlighted on the attached PDF.

Improvements to the paper:

1. I would like to see either a table or text on the sample frame on which the statistical modelling was performed. It may have been published in an earlier paper, but it would be worthwhile summarizing the key characteristics of the study population E.g. inclusion/exclusion criteria; definition of 'elderly'; the age range and mean of the data set; the mean number of morbidities; and a summary of the type of morbidities in the sample population.

2. A little more information about the nurse-led continence care service would also be informative for the reader

3. The method of analysis and results are detailed, well written and reasonably easy to understand, although it may need to be vetted by an expert in Markov modelling.

4. I am not clear how the research team obtained the subject data for the modelling and whether or not it received ethical approval. This is important and needs to be clarified. If the study is exempt from IRM approval, then it should also be mentioned and evidence supporting this needs to be provided.

5. The discussion is very long - the authors should try to highlight the key findings and to discuss the findings more succinctly.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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