Reviewer’s report

Title: Economic burden of moderate to severe Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation in six European countries

Version: 0 Date: 07 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Francesco Torresan

Reviewer's report:

Interesting study about direct and indirect costs related to moderate and severe IBS-C. The manuscript is well written and stresses the large impact of this condition on healthcare systems and society.

2 issues should be discussed and addressed:

1. 525 patients diagnosed with IBS-C were included. During the last 6 months observation period many patients underwent diagnostic tests which could have modified the initial diagnosis. Did a subgroup of these patients have a different diagnosis after these tests or did you exclude them?

2. Patients were included both from primary or specialist care. Do you have subgroups of patients managed only by primary physician and only by specialists? It could be interesting to study if there is a cost saving in patients followed only by specialists

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:

Acceptable

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