Reviewer’s report

Title: Informal Care Relationships and Residential Aged Care Recommendations: Evidence from Administrative Data

Version: 0 Date: 07 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Johanna de Almeida Mello

Reviewer's report:

In your background session, please explain to the reader who are the assessors. What are their functions in the care for older people? Are they nurses or maybe social assistants? Please give us more information on this. Also explain shortly how the assessment is performed (ex. by interview with the older person or with family as well...).

Your definition of carer availability is clear but the reader will wish to have an idea of what you mean by 'providing regular and sustained care and assistance'. In the data available do you have any information on hours providing care or total days of the week?

Results:

Language and layout issues in this sentence: 'Table 2 present the distribution of carer relationship and co-residence along with control variables (background demographic, health and functional needs measures)....'

Please, add to tables 1 and 2 that you are showing percentages by putting the symbol % on top of the columns.

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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