Reviewer’s report

Title: The Associations of Multimorbidity with the Sum of Annual Medical and Long-Term Care Expenditures in Japan

Version: 1 Date: 13 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Xiaoyin Li

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The authors improved the manuscripts based on the reviewer's comments. I still have two major concerns as follows:

1. It is still not clear why dichotomous age categories were used in the analysis. If the participant age was indicated by a birth year question/item with 5 year-age range and the youngest age range was 72 to 76 (table 1), how did you make sure that only people aged 75 or older were selected? Why 86 was the cutoff for age categories? Any rationale or previous research about differentiating people who were 87 years or older from people who were 86 years or younger?

2. For the majority of participants (even when they have a CCI score of 5 or higher), LTC was not required. It might be helpful to have some comparison between LTC required cases and LTC not required cases, in addition to reporting the total Medical and long-term expenditures among all participants. For example, in table 2 and somewhere in results and discussion, try to report the medical expenditure and total expenditure by whether LTC is required, or report the ICC score by whether LTC is required.

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