Reviewer’s report

Title: QUALITY OF LIFE PROFILE IN THREE COHORTS OF COMMUNITY-DWELLING SWISS OLDER PEOPLE

Version: 0 Date: 19 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Jenny Ploeg

Reviewer’s report:

This study explored the hypothesis that different social contexts experienced by three cohorts (those born before, during and after World War II) may influence QoL (satisfaction with and perceived importance of QoL).

I suggest the authors add information in the background related to the importance of QoL, why is it an important concept to understand, its relationship to other health-related variables, etc.

I suggest the authors also add stronger justification for this study, in relation to why it is important to study this topic and how the results can be used now and in the future.

The authors drew data from the Lausanne cohort of persons aged 65 and older. More discussion of this cohort, in relation to how similar it is to other groups of older adults (e.g., in relation to factors such as age distribution, education, chronic conditions, etc) would be valuable. This would help in determining the applicability of results to other countries. Further, a brief summary of the study design would be helpful here, recognizing the authors refer readers to a previous paper.

The authors describe demographic and health related measures used and the QoL tool used; additional information should be added related to the reliability and validity of this QoL tool.

The authors note that for importance and satisfaction related to QoL domains with more than one missing constituent items, data were treated as missing. Please indicate how much missing data there was, and clarify why multiple imputation was not used.

The authors conclude with a statement that "it would be critical to gain better insight on whether perceived QoL is modifiable by psychological, societal, or economic interventions and to support methods to improve positive psychological coping strategies." This statement is not at all connected to the background text or the findings of this study, and needs stronger linkage to the topic of this paper.

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.

Yes

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.

I recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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