Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and overlap of sarcopenia, frailty, cachexia and malnutrition in older medical inpatients

Version: 0 Date: 24 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Helen Roberts

Reviewer's report:

This is an innovative study looking at prevalence and overlap of four syndromes - sarcopenia, frailty, malnutrition and cachexia - in acute medical inpatients. The manuscript is clear and well-written. The participants were a consecutive sample recruited over 3-4 months of patients 70+ years able to comply with measurement techniques. This would have excluded some as BIA standing, SPPB and no cognitive impairment were eligibility criteria, but this limitation is addressed in the discussion.

Thus 100/402 patients aged 70+ were studied. However there was still a high prevalence of syndromes in keeping with other studies. The description of overlap is novel and interesting and the tables and diagrams are appropriate. This paper adds to the growing body of knowledge of these geriatric syndromes.

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

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I am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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