**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Fall-Related Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations among Community-Dwelling Older Adults: Examination of Health Problems and Injury Characteristics

**Version:** 0 **Date:** 11 Mar 2019

**Reviewer:** Reviewer 2

**Reviewer's report:**

**PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:**

**OBJECTIVE** - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

**DESIGN** - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

**EXECUTION** - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

**Statistics** - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

**INTERPRETATION** - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are minor issues
OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Yes - current version is technically sound

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: This study is excellent. It uses a national data source and although is primarily descriptive in nature has some very interesting findings. Strengths of this paper include that it is well written, clearly experienced team of researchers, that have addressed an important question. Specific ways to improve: 1) The paper is on the long-side. If there are ways to reduce the length particularly of the results or discussion, I think it would be easier to read, 2) Altogether, I agree with much of the discussion except I do agree that EMS may be able to do a brief in-home assessment but would not be able to intervene. The ED is also a good place for falls risk assessment and has more resources including case managers and social workers if there is a need for interventions. Two areas to consider addition to the discussion: 1) the move toward geriatric EDs where this sort of assessment occurs, and 2) the push toward quality measurement of falls risk assessment in primary care at a national level.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

As above. Overall, this is excellent.

Note: This reviewer report can be downloaded - see attached pdf file.

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.

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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