Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of potentially inappropriate medication and polypharmacy in older adults: a repeated cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 25 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Elisa Zengarini

Reviewer's report:

1) Despite this first correction, the first part of introduction is not still sufficiently fluent and enlightening. Indeed, there is a repeated sentence (i.e. polypharmacy increases the risk of interactions, lines 10 and 14), some inconsistency (e.g. "One could argue that the severity of the morbidity is increasing with age and therefore the number of medications increases"). Moreover the definition of potentially inappropriate medications (PIM) is reductive. The issue of drug therapy in older population is wide and multifaceted. The introduction may lead to the knowledge of this issue, the identification of the gaps in the literature, and thus to the hypothesis formulated, in a more consistent way. Moreover, some expression as "set up as a natural experiment" may be not necessary. 2) It may be informative to better explain also in the text the limit and advantage of considering two "different" cohort (2011 and 2013) with 78% individuals present in both cohort

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.

Unable to assess

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 recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Needs some language corrections before being published

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