Reviewer’s report

Title: PREVENTION PRACTICES INFLUENCING FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCE OF VASO-OCCCLUSIVE CRISIS AMONG SICKLE CELL PATIENTS IN ABEOKUTA SOUTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF OGUN STATE, NIGERIA.

Version: 1 Date: 24 May 2016

Reviewer: AJ Madu

Reviewer's report:

Authors investigated ; Home management of sickle cell crisis among patients in Abeokuta South local government area of Ogun State.

Title: It is difficult to study "Home management" of any condition in a cross sectional manner, this is better done on a prospective cohort of 2 groups which should be matched for age, sex and frequency of crisis. I suggest author should revise the title or choose a more suitable one.

Abstract:

Results- "association of crisis with nutritious diet", author should explain what is meant by nutritious diet and how the responses were ascertained.

Use "prophylaxis" instead of "prophylactics".

Introduction:

Should be targeted at the topic - "home management of sickle cell crisis" and its associated gains or losses. Authors generally described sickle cell with no focus on the topic.

Methodology: State duration of the study (date of commencement and ending)

Delete paragraphs 2 & 3 and only retain information relevant with respect to the study at hand in paragraph 1.

Sampling techniques: the study sampling was done by a consecutive, non-randomized sampling - this should be clearly stated

Data collection: should be described in 1 sentence, "interviewer administered pre-validated questionnaire were used"

Delete the section on instrument of data collection
Ethical Approval: written informed consent is required from each participant, verbal consent alone is not adequate.

Results: Author needs to define the term "nutritious diet".

Can these patients be said to managed at home? It may be necessary for authors to define the term "home management", in this context as opposed to hospital management.

Discussion: This should be targeted at the salient findings in the study with respect to the pre-defined aims and objectives.

MAJOR COMMENT: This is a hospital-based study to investigate "home management" of sickle cell crisis, were all or some of the patients managed at home? If not how are the conclusions reached since patients also visited the hospital when the need arose. What were the forms of the crisis managed at home in this group of patients and what was the outcome?

Are the methods appropriate and well described? 
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Does the work include the necessary controls? 
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published
**Declaration of competing interests**

Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license ([http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal