Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and factors associated with one-year mortality of infectious diseases among elderly emergency department patients in a middle-income country

Version: 0 Date: 30 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Richard Wolfe

Reviewer's report:

In both the abstract and the paper, as a conclusion you note that 1/3rd of elderly ED patients died within 1 year. Do you mean elderly emergency patients with infection or do you mean those patients who were admitted? A little more precision is needed as this could also mean that all elderly patients who presented to your ED for all causes, died within 1 year. This final outcome would be more than astonishing unless your emergency population or outpatient support are dramatically different than in high-income countries.

When using a p-value of <=0.01, male gender would not make the cut. Since you use this threshold for all the other predictors and the low end of the range of the O.R. would be one, would it be preferable to not list it as a predictor identified by your study?

Serum lactate has been shown in many studies to be a predictor of mortality. Did analyze the predictive value with higher levels such as >=4. The same might apply to higher levels of serum creatinine. Did you consider assessing serum sodium levels or calculated osmolality which have been shown to be a predictor of mortality in ill medical patients?


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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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