Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of insufficient drug efficacy of antiparkinson agents on patient's quality of life: A cross-sectional study

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Reviewer: Seyed-Mohammad Fereshtehnejad

Reviewer's report:

I re-evaluated the manuscript titled: “Impact of insufficient drug efficacy of antiparkinson agents on patients’ quality of life: A cross-sectional study”. Although the manuscript has been improved after some revisions, there are still other issues and concerns that should be taken into account. I think four of my previous comments still remain with no satisfactory changes. I recommend Major Compulsory Revisions before the acceptance.

My comments and concerns are as follows:

1. As I mentioned previously, the most important concern about this project is the validity of information since all data were gathered as self-reported by the patients without even checking with their medical records. Authors have accepted this problem but also replied that the large sample size of this study may have compensated this validity issue, however, I must note that large sample size could definitely lower the chance of random errors but not systematic errors or biases such as information bias. Therefore, I highly recommend extensively elaborating this problem in the limitation section of the manuscript and recommending more valid studies for future.

2. As previously mentioned, there are just few patients in the mild stage of disease due to the fact that these patients were not probably eager enough to participate in the survey. Thus, it is not possible to judge about the frequency of insufficient drug efficacy in a PD population based on the findings of this study. This important issue needs to be discussed in the “Discussion” section to clarify the generalizability issues in this study.

3. I previously recommended performing multivariate analysis to check if the insufficient drug efficacy could still have an independent effect on quality of life score after adjustment for Hoehn and Yahr score and/or disease duration adjusted for the baseline characteristics such as age and sex. Most of the data on these variables are already reported and seem to be available. Therefore, I think it is necessary to perform this additional analysis especially when the validity of information about the main variable (insufficiency of treatment) is doubtful based on the self-reported nature.

4. Page 8, line 5: If “no previous reports investigated Japanese subjects” using the PDQ-8, then it becomes necessary to provide statistical data on the reliability
and validity of the Japanese version of the questionnaire prior to interpreting any findings from that. If this is still the case, please perform reliability and validity analysis to check the Japanese version of the PDQ-8.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.