Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness, safety and health-related quality of life of multiple sclerosis patients treated with fingolimod: results from a 12-month, real-world, observational PERFORMS study in the Middle East

Version: 0 Date: 06 Feb 2017

Reviewer: Pasquale Annunziata

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript reports original findings on a multicenter observational study on real-world clinical effectiveness as well as impact on quality of life of fingolimod in the Middle East. The manuscript is well written and discussed. However, there are suggestions to ameliorate the article. 1) The major issue is the lack of neuroimaging findings. This could add to the effect of treatment. However, the authors should give any comment on this issue especially when considering the disease activity status in relapse-free patients.

2) In the design of the study, the authors should better claim that data on other DMTs constitute parallel findings and there is no comparison of cohorts. However, I don't understand why they present Kaplan-Meier analysis for time to first relapse in both cohorts.

3) However, the baseline characteristics of both cohorts could be compared and a P value could be therefore added in Table1.

4) In Table 2, the results of the statistical analysis of the frequencies in the respective cohorts should be shown.

3) In figures 2, 3, 5 and 6, the significant values should be indicated.

4) In methods, the authors should state how they analyzed Kaplan-Meier curves and therefore, in figure 4, the P value should be indicated.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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.

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
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Acceptable

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