Reviewer's report

Title: One-year Versus Five-year Hospital Readmission after Ischemic Stroke and TIA

Version: 0 Date: 31 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Xiayan Shen

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- Paper explored the factors for readmission within a year as opposed to that within the first 2-5 years and that the predictors for readmission were largely similar between both groups because of the vascular risk profile
- Under Methods, Page 3, Line 40, please re-define TIA as the following: A brief episode of neurological dysfunction caused by focal brain or retinal ischemia, with clinical symptoms typically lasting less than one hour, and without evidence of acute infarction
- Under Methods, Page 4, Line 23-33: Will like the authors to clarify as to how they determined hemorrhagic transformation of ischemic stroke as opposed to it being a treatment related complication from anti platelet and anti coagulation. Will also like clarification as to how the authors decide that a readmission is for seizure unrelated to stroke as opposed to seizure from scar epilepsy
- Under Results, Page 6, Line 32, does the author refer to Table 2? There has been no Table 5 appended
- Under Results, Page 7, Lines 17-27, is there a table for the causes of readmission?
- As smoking is also a known cardiovascular risk factor for both stroke and cardiac disease, does ever-smokers who continue to smoke after stroke as compared to those who stopped after stroke as opposed to smokers who stopped prior to admission predict for readmission within 1 year as opposed to 2-5 years? This is a modifiable risk factor that can be looked into
- As obesity is a known cardiovascular risk factor, does Body Mass Index/ body fat percentage affect rate of re-admissions? Again, this is a modifiable risk factor that can be looked into but not addressed in the current paper
- Will also like the authors to explore if compliance to medical therapy predict for re-admission within 1 year as opposed to 2-5 years as opposed to no readmissions. This is another modifiable risk factor that can be potentially addressed
- Under Discussion, will like the authors to explain why cardiac diseases is a more frequent cause of admission for stroke in 2-5 years as opposed to at the 1 year time point whereas stroke related event and recurrent strokes become a less frequent cause of admission for stroke in 2-5 year as opposed to the 1 year time point as the risk factors for both stroke as well as cardiac diseases are similar
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.

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
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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