Reviewer’s report
Title: 10-year ASCVD risk is positively correlated with depressive symptoms in a large general population

Version: 1 Date: 01 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Livia Carvalho

Reviewer's report:

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In this study, the authors investigated the association between the 10-years risk of cardiovascular disease with depressive symptoms in a large population study in primary care settings. The topic of the study is of high clinical relevance. My first comment is the reason behind analysing PHQ-9 as factor while it should be analysed as continuous scale, the authors would have a more reliable and powerful statistical association if results were shown using it as continuous. The authors did not show individual associations with covariates, was there a main effect of gender and a main effect of cvs risk with phq-9 as continuous? If so, show main effects and then in another regression model show the presence (or not) of interaction. If stats are modified than its most likely either table 2 or 3 will become redundant.

It would also be helpful to describe which statistical method was used in each part of the results section more clearly.

There was no evaluation by a psychiatrist according to any diagnostic criteria, and therefore I would remove any mention of a major depressive disorder. Just analyse the data as continuous depressive symptoms.

As this study is cross-sectional, the authors are unable to investigate as mentioned in page 4 risk of depression. What the authors have done is to investigate whether individuals with higher depressive symptoms have higher cvs risk or vice-versa.

As an additional comment, it would be helpful if the article was revised for English, and for clarity family income changed to higher/middle/lower and abbreviations avoided as much as possible. What is WC in page 8 line 1?

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
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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