Reviewer's report

Title: Regional disparities in interferon therapy for chronic hepatitis C in Japan: A nationwide, retrospective cohort study

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Reviewer: Julian Schulze zur Wiesch

Reviewer's report:

Please copy edit the entire manuscript by an English native speaker. Shorten the (very data heavy) manuscript. Rather than focusing on the treatment outcome etc (facts that are not new and well known) describe more the public health facts eg in Figure 8-10 you show that the relative number of hepatologists does not correlate with treatment outcome, but the population density did.

Apparently, all parameters were added to the multivariate analysis, regardless of the results of the univariate analysis, this is statistically not sound!

At least 2/3 of the patients were genotype 1 patients, you describe that the SVR rate gradually increased after 2008 = were any of the patients treated with boceprevir/Telaprevir?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests