Reviewer’s report

Title: Management and Attitudes about IPF (Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis) in Latin America Physicians

Version: 0 Date: 02 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Paola Crivelli

Reviewer's report:

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General Comments

The paper entitled "Management and Attitudes about IPF (Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis) in Latin America" by Cherrez Ojed I. and coworker is aimed at assessing current practice patterns in management of patient affected by Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, and, consequently, improving IPF guidelines in clinical practice. The aim is clear, the topic seems interesting, the paper is well written. The Authors investigated the role of medical doctor in diagnosis and management of IPF, and, comparing pulmonologist and physicians, underlines the major point of weakness.

Detailed comment

Background:

1- Line 58: the Authors could specify the affirmation that "the MDT is now considered the gold standard for distinguishing IPF from other ILDs disease".

2- The Authors could specify what mean "lack of uniformity in diagnosis of IPF", if the problem regards radiological diagnosis, functional respiratory tests, etc.
Methods:

1- The inclusion criteria was diploma of medical doctor but the recruitment happened only during meeting of Allergy and Respiratory Medicine, and are excluded many specialist (e.g. radiologist) that could have an important role in diagnosis (according to current guidelines).

2- The statistical analysts could be more detailed, the variables considered are not described.

Results:

1- The data concerning a major access to radiologist, pathologist or MDT by pulmonologist is not so relevant: the setting of pulmonologist is more frequently an hospital, or a specialised ambulatory, and the possibility of a consultation is simpler.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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