Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and characteristics of COPD among pneumoconiosis patients at an occupational disease prevention institute: A cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 07 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Jens Bräunlich

Reviewer’s report:

Major comments:

- The background section should present current studies and relevant literature. The inclusion in the discussion section is too late.

- background 31: What is the difference between longstanding and long-time asthma?

- Why you include patient with only 1 year underground work

- data collection: How was the questionnaire validated?

- You recruited patients from 2015-2016. Why do you performed diagnosis to the 2017 GOLD guidelines?

Minor comments:

- include page numbers

- background 27: I would prefer to say partial reversible airflow...

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.

Unable to assess

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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