Reviewer’s report

Title: Chronic Periodontitis and Community-acquired Pneumonia: A Population-based Cohort Study

Version: 1 Date: 23 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Te-Chun Shen

Reviewer's report:

The authors responded well and much improved the manuscript. However, some points need to be clarified as following:

1. "The main outcome of the study was admission due to CAP..." This description is still unclear. How do you identify HAP (pneumonia occurring 48 hours after admission) from the pneumonia codes (J12-J18) at discharge? You have excluded previous history of admission (within 10 days after last discharge), but you do not mention how to distinguish CAP and HAP (pneumonia occurring 48 hours after admission) from the index hospitalization. Unless, you should mention the coding in the database is an admission code, not a discharge code.

2. The authors have made some efforts to exclude health-care associated pneumonia (HCAP, people who have been recently hospitalized and are regularly exposed to the health care system). However, the method is not adequate because the criteria of HCAP is much extended. I just pointed out some examples (such as people undergoing regular hemodialysis or those living in the nursing home). If the authors really want to exclude HCAP, you should check the definition again.

3. I suggest to revise the conclusion:
"The results of this study show that the presence of CP is not associated with CAP in a Korean population." (in abstract)
"This study suggested that CP may be not a potential risk factor for CAP." (in full text)

4. "The study population was divided into 4 groups according to the severity of periodontitis (non-CP, mild, moderate, and severe)." should be revised to "The study population was divided into 4 groups: non-CP, mild CP, moderate CP, and severe CP)."

5. As above mentioned, the previous comment (Table 2 and Table 3: "healthy" subjects should not be included into chronic periodontitis) did not mean to remove the healthy subjects (non-CP group). You should independently present the non-CP group, but not include into chronic periodontitis groups.
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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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