Reviewer’s report

Title: Post hoc analysis of initial treatments and control status in the INITIAL study: An observational study of newly diagnosed patients with asthma

Version: 1 Date: 02 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Warawut Chaiwong

Reviewer's report:

My comments:

In general, this is an interesting research. The authors aim to assess asthma severity among newly diagnosed patients as well as their prescribed medications and response to treatment and to further investigate the medications and medication combinations prescribed at baseline during the INITIAL study and to determine the impact of the change in asthma control criteria between the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) 2012 and 2018 guidelines. However, there are some major points should be improved.

Major comment

In the Statistical Analysis section was not provided in the materials and methods section. The specific statistical analysis that compared level of asthma control between GINA 2012 and GINA2018 should be provided.

1. Introduction

- In overall, the background is too short. The more rational of this study should be added.

2. Methods

- In the Statistical Analysis section was not provided in the materials and methods section.

- The specific statistical analysis that compared level of asthma control between GINA 2012 and GINA 2018 should be provided.

- The specific statistical analysis that compared level of asthma control between GINA 2012, GINA 2018, and ACQ-5 should be provided.

3. Results
- In the table 3, Figure 1 and 2, the p-value that derived from statistical analysis should be specified.

4. Conclusion

- I think that the first paragraph of the conclusion was not relevant to the objective of the study.

It should be removed from the conclusion section.

Minor

- In the reference section. Reference no. 2, 3, 4, and 10 should include the URL website and the date of assessed which accordance to the format of the journal.

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.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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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