Reviewer's report

Title: Mortality rates and the causes of death related to diabetes mellitus in Shanghai Songjiang District: An 11-year retrospective analysis of death certificates

Version: 2
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Reviewer: Tsung-Hsueh Lu

Major Compulsory Revisions

This analyzed all the death certificates mentioning diabetes from 2002 to 2012 in Songjiang District of Shanghai to estimate morality rates and examine cause of death patterns. The interpretation of diabetes-related mortality is complicated, because the variation of mortality might be due to real epidemiological profiles of population, differences in coding and certification practices. The authors wrote too many well-known textbook knowledge on diabetes mortality in the introduction without mentioning so many important empirical studies in this field (listed in the followings). If the authors did not interpreting their finding in the context of previous studies, readers would not understanding the meaning of these numbers. Do 30% of diabetes-related death attributed to cardiovascular diseases high or low? It depends on which country compared. This is an important and interested research topic, I am expecting that the revised manuscript could have a good dialogue with previous studies.

7. Lu TH, Hsu PY, Bjorkenstam C, Anderson RN: Certifying diabetes-related


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'