**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Prevalence and determinants of erectile dysfunction among diabetic patients attending at hospitals of Central and Northwestern Zone of Tigray, Northern Ethiopia: a cross-sectional study

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 16 Sep 2016

**Reviewer:** Indulekha Karunakaran

**Reviewer's report:**

Journal: BMC endocrine disorders

Title: Prevalence and determinants of erectile dysfunction among diabetic patients attending at hospitals of Central and Northwestern Zone of Tigray, Northern Ethiopia: a cross-sectional study

The study looks at the prevalence of erectile dysfunction in a 249 males from Ethiopia and identifies the predictors of the same. However, there are several issues with the manuscript that should be addressed and corrected.

**Comments**

1. It is mentioned in the methods section that informed consent is obtained from the study participants. Was it written or oral informed consent?

2. What was the criterion used for the diagnosis of diabetes? How was fasting and post-prandial blood sugar levels measured? These details should be included in the methods section.

3. The methods section is also lacking in other important details like the method of measurement of blood pressure and criteria used for the classification of obesity

4. The results section mentions about the poor glycemic control of the study participants. Was HbA1c data available for the study subjects? If so, the mean levels should be provided.

5. It is important to include clinical variables like mean age, BMI, Blood pressure, Fasting and post-prandial blood sugar, HbA1c as a separate table or in table 1.

6. The study findings show that old age is a significant predictor of erectile dysfunction which is already known. Hence it would be interesting to exclude subjects > 60 years of age and identify the predictors of erectile dysfunction in the younger population which is a far more important research question.
7. Data on the prevalence of alcohol consumption and smoking are available for the study subjects. What is the prevalence of ED in subjects who smoke and don't smoke and in subjects who are physically active and sedentary and in those who consume alcohol and don't?

8. Figure 2: data presented in figure 2 can be included in any of the tables instead of showing it as a separate figure.

9. Line 49-51 state that "The results on type of diabetic showed 63.1% are Type 1 and the remaining 36.9% are Type 2 DM". Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes are diseases with distinct pathologies, the former an autoimmune disorder and the latter a metabolic disease. Hence all the data should be presented separately for type 1 and type 2 diabetes patients as it is not appropriate to combine both disorders. Further, the title should be modified to reflect that both type 1 and type 2 diabetes patients are included in the study.

10. What is the meaning of 'Adjusted odds ratio'? what are the confounders adjusted?

11. Minor comments

Please correct the typo in Line 8 'Severe'

12. The abbreviation IDF is not used in the text.

13. "Duration of illness" should be corrected to duration of diabetes.

14. The references should be formatted uniformly according to the journal's style.

**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.

Yes

**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.
I am able to assess the statistics

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

- Needs some language corrections before being published

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