Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of Social Adaptability Index to Explain Self-care and Diabetes Outcomes

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Reviewer: Kate Lorig

Reviewer's report:

This article shows that the Social Adaptability Index is not useful in determining diabetes outcomes. The authors are to be congratulated for not mixing predictability with associations. Except for warning others not to use this scale, I am not sure about the utility of this article. Given the large data set I think that there are some other things that might have been explored. For example, we usually think of depression as an outcome but in fact it may be associated with poor self-management behaviors and in fact may actually predict these behaviors. It is one of these interesting variables that is probably both predictive of behaviors and affected by behaviors. At least the association could be explored.

Since the paper nicely shows that the social adaptability index is not explanatory for diabetes, the authors could have done a more careful analysis of past publications on this scale to see if the authors has actually shown it to be explanatory in other conditions or merely associated with outcomes. If the data sets used were cross sectional and not longitudinal then it may very well be that this scale has little utility. I think that this paper could be greatly strengthened with an exploration and maybe critique of pass studies. (It should be noted that this reviewer knows nothing about the SAI and is just curious.)

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

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