Reviewer’s report

Title: Clinical characteristics of adrenal crisis in adult population with and without predisposing chronic adrenal insufficiency: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 0 Date: 11 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Miguel Debobo

Reviewer's report:

In this paper by Iwasaku et al investigators attempt to investigate the reasons for admission to hospital of patients with adrenal crises looking at various predisposing factors. The paper lacks clarity and does not focus on the main objectives of the study. It is hard to follow the authors train of thought as they go from one subject to another. The paper needs to be proof read by an editor experienced in writing in English.

1. In line 80 what does "to describe candidates as precipitating conditions for AC and the use of GC therapy" mean?

2. Case ascertainment for the "other" group might not be so accurate and it is not clear how this group of patients were diagnosed with adrenal crises. Could this group have patients suffering from diseases treated with glucocorticoids such as inflammatory conditions e.g asthma, inflammatory bowel disease who are on regular steroids and are more likely to be admitted to hospital with acute exacerbations of their condition as opposed to adrenal crises?

3. Line 147 I guess should be changed to the presence of a disease considered to be the cause for primary AI

4. What are endocrine stimulation test and adrenal cortex stimulation test referring to? Is this the Short Synacthen test?

5. Line 230 what does one mean by commenting that the most common cause for patient with primary ai is ai? Is this adrenal crisis?

6. It would be interesting to know in the text what the measured cortisol levels were for patients diagnosed with adrenal crisis

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.

No

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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