Reviewer’s report

Title: Frequency of foot ulcers in people with type 2 diabetes, presenting to specialist diabetes clinic at a tertiary care hospital, Lahore, Pakistan.

Version: 0 Date: 19 May 2018

Reviewer: Rayaz Malik

Reviewer's report:

This is a large retrospective study of patients presenting to a busy tertiary centre in Pakistan with diabetes.

In addition to clinical and biochemical variables, the investigators undertook biothesiometry and ABPI assessment.

The prevalence of DFU was ~7%, but surprisingly only 4.5% were on the plantar surface, with 2.6% on the dorsum. This is highly unusual as DFU occur predominantly on the plantar areas, particularly the high-pressure areas on the 1st and 5th met heads or heel.

What was the distribution of DFU?

Also another surprising finding is that 85% had bilateral foot ulcers.

What was the prevalence of Charcot foot?

The introduction and conclusion need to be succinct and relevant to the objectives and findings of the study.

Was the VPT derived from a mean of the VPT from the 5 sites?

The VPT is usually derived from an average of 3 measurements of vibration perception at the distal toe only.

A VPT >25V signifies those at high risk of foot ulceration, not PN. PN is normally defined with a VPT >15V. Therefore this population has a very high prevalence of patients with advanced neuropathy.

It would be important to establish the prevalence of DPN base on a VPT >15V on the tip of the toe in this population to be able to compare this with other studies from Pakistan and the region as well as internationally.

Why was there a greater female preponderance?

Also the mean age of patients with and without DFU is low.
Given that 13.4% of the patients were less than 40 years of age, was T1DM excluded?

The analysis in Table 4 is not adding anything?

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

Yes

**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.

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.

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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