Reviewer’s report

Title: Mortality in patients with diabetic foot ulcer: a retrospective study of 513 cases from a single centre in the Northern Territory of Australia.

Version: 0 Date: 22 Jul 2018

Reviewer: Michael Edmonds

Reviewer’s report:

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Page 3 Line 76

"Peripheral vascular disease (PVD) was defined by history, decreased or absent pedal pulses or with imaging."

Could the authors be more specific?

Page 4 Line 79

"Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) was considered to be present on the basis of albuminuria, creatinine, and eGFR."

What were the actual thresholds of these parameters to make a diagnosis of CKD

Was this CKD stage 3 or 4 or 5?

Page 4 Line 83

"Causes of death were noted from death certificates, if available."

In how many patients were death certificates available?

How was the cause of death decided when death certificates were not available?

Page 4 Line 100

"Alcohol consumption was recorded in 63.1% of the study population"
Was alcohol consumption quantitated in any way?

Page 4 Line 106

"The most common causes for the DFUs were trauma (45.0%) and infection (29.4%)."

I am not sure how infection actually causes an ulcer? Please comment.

Page 5 Line 113

"Adjunct hyperbaric therapy was required for a quarter (25.5%). A third (34.3%) was treated with total contact cast and half (51.3%) underwent amputation, over the study duration."

When the authors use the term "amputation" throughout the paper, could they note whether it was major or minor amputation?

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.

Unable to assess

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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