Reviewer’s report

Title: Impact of diabetes mellitus on functional exercise capacity and pulmonary functions in patients with diabetes and healthy persons

Version: 0 Date: 24 Jul 2018

Reviewer: Turhan Kahraman

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

I read your manuscript entitled "The six-minute walk test in the assessment of daily physical capacity in patients with diabetes" with a great interest. I hope my recommendations will help you to improve your manuscript.

Best regards.

Turhan Kahraman

In general, the manuscript is easy to follow and understand, yet, there are some awkward sentences. I think a simple check by a native speaker will improve it.

There are two main concerns related to your manuscript. First, throughout the manuscript, I realize that you confused about the aim of 6MWT. 6MWT is located under "activity" domain of International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). However, it does not mean it assess the daily physical activity, yet, 6MWT and daily physical activity are correlated. Actually, the 6MWT is an alternative to maximal exercise test. Therefore, you should be aware that the 6MWT represents functional exercise capacity or walking capacity. Second, in current methodology, you cannot properly evaluate the usability of 6MWT. Although you checked the adverse event during the test, it is not enough. You have to examine its psychometric properties such as test-retest reliability, inter-rater reliability, validity (correlates to a validated exercise capacity test in persons with diabetes). Therefore, I believe you should change the aim of your study to compare functional exercise capacity and pulmonary functions in persons with diabetes and healthy persons. According to the main concerns, I believe you have to re-write your introduction and discussion.

While re-writing your manuscript, please keep in mind my following recommendations.

Report full p values, do not just write as "ns".

Report the disease duration.
There is a significant difference in age, height and BMI between the persons with diabetes and healthy participants. It is well known that they are closely related factors with 6MWT distance. Therefore, you have to perform ANCOVA adjusted to age, height and BMI.

Please report how you checked the normal distribution of the data.

Did you perform a sample size calculation? Please report it.

Please state the limitations of the study.

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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