Reviewer's report

Title: Incidence and determinants of diabetes-related lower limb amputations in Ghana, 2010-2015 - a retrospective cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 01 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Graham Leese

Reviewer's report:

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This is an interesting manuscript that provides useful information from a country and region of the world with limited prior published data

There are a few areas that may be improved:

ABSTRACT

1. The improvement in amputation rates in developed countries is very variable and is rarely dramatic. Please change the wording

2. The results describing a rate of 2.4 per 1000 is NOT 2.4% - the % signs should be removed

BACKGROUND

3. One of the references in 8-10 is from Cameroon - not necessarily resource rich. Is this reference relevant? There are other developed countries who report lower amputation rates with National data

METHODS

4. line 91 - is "estimated GFR" that was used?

5. P6 the last sentence in the first paragraph needs to be written with greater clarity as to what is meant
6. Analyses - was PVD used as a risk factor to see if it was a strong predictor

RESULTS

7. p9 line 2 - typo error

8. Table 1: Data on duration of diabetes does not seem to fit with difference in age of diagnosis and current age - I wonder if the age at diagnosis has been swopped between the two subgroups?

9. Why are the endpoints of eGFR and PVD not included in Table 1

DISCUSSION

10. Is it possible that the cohort selected has self selected and has more "severe diabetes"? That may be why they are attending a tertiary clinic

11. It would be good if the authors could discuss why they think the amputation rate is increasing - The high rate of amputation is discussed but not why it is increasing. Could this be due patients living longer? What was the mean age of death in the group in 2010 and 2015?

12. p11 para 2 line 2 - typo error
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.
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