Reviewer's report

Title: Type 1 diabetes-associated cognitive impairment and diabetic peripheral neuropathy in Chinese adults: results from a prospective cross-sectional study

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Reviewer: Anna Shalimova

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1. According to the description of healthy controls, ‘… as persons like, they can have biochemical examination of blood such as serum lipids, hepatic and renal function, and fasting glucose, also including tumor markers, thyroid function and so on by the same detecting instruments as T1DM patients. Additionally patients can have a CT or X-ray scan of any part of the body as indicated, even including MRI examinations…’. However, it does not confirm that all possible causes of cognitive impairment were excluded from this group, since individuals from the control group could receive certain diagnostic procedures or could not receive them.

In continuation of this, I agree with the opinion of reviewer Baqiyah Conway, according to which it would be more correct to additionally present logistic regression data for healthy individuals (even considering their young age).

2. Taking into account the fact that educational level is associated with cognitive impairments (and it is also confirmed in the results of this work, p = 0.029 in the table 3), I consider the group of people with educational level ‘≤6-year education’ to be excluded from the study (especially given the fact that there are only 2 such patients in the main group and 1 in the control group). In my opinion, it is incorrect to include in one group of persons with such a different educational level. I also believe that it is necessary to conduct an additional comparison between patients of the main and control groups, taking into account their educational level (within ‘7 to ≤12-year education' and ‘> 12-year education' groups). If such a comparison has already been made, should indicate whether there was a difference between the groups.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

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If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
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Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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