Reviewer’s report

Title: Long-term outcomes and risk factors of thyroid dysfunction during pegylated interferon and ribavirin treatment in patients with chronic hepatitis C infection in Taiwan

Version: 1 Date: 11 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Akihito Tsubota

Reviewer's report:

We express our respect for the authors' effort. Authors have responded adequately to the reviewer's comments. However, there are some minor points that should be corrected or modified.

Major and minor comments:
1. Authors should emphasize what is new in the present study more clearly.

2. Text page 12, line 5: What was liver disease? All patients had chronic HCV infection.

3. Text page 12, last line: "In the patients with TD, 173 (41.5%) had received antiviral drugs or interferon treatment..."; What were "antiviral drugs"? This term means that "antiviral drugs" were not IFN-based treatment. Furthermore, in next page 13 (line 3-4), "173 (4.5%) CHC patients who had been treated with PEG-IFN/RBV were diagnosed with TD..."; These descriptions were inconsistent.

4. Sex was a significant factor in Table 3. However, in page 12 (line 16), sex was not associated with TD.

5. Table 3, "Multivariate analysis" columns: Only the final step results should be denoted, and non-significant results should be deleted from the table. The definition of categorical data is obscure: for instance, "Hyperlipidemia (yes/no)" indicates that "no" has any fold hazard ratio against "yes". Which is "1 (standard)", "yes" or "no"?

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

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