Reviewer’s report

Title: Impaired awareness of hypoglycemia in children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes mellitus in North of Jordan

Version: 0 Date: 26 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Andrea Fischl

Reviewer's report:

Hypoglycemia is a common acute complication seen in Type 1 Diabetes. In addition to significant physiological issues associated with hypoglycemia in children, there may be significant psychological issues experienced by both the child with T1D as well as their caregivers.

There are several areas that need addressed before publication. These include:

1) More detail is needed to describe this population. What was the age range of this group? What constitutes the age of a child versus the age of an adolescent? You eliminated children below the age of 5 so did the population include children >5 years of age? What is the oldest adolescent that was seen? Does your clinic see pediatric patients through age 18? 19? etc. Table 1 is confusing and needs to be re-constructed to show what statistic is used for each of the variables and each of the age groups. The authors report what statistics are used at the bottom of the table. When generating the table, please delineate what the statistic is, i.e., %, mean, range etc. While interquartile range shows where the bulk of the cohort lies, in describing age for example it would be more descriptive to report range, mean, median and then the interquartile range. When looking at the age, what does the first column report for the n=94: what does the number 10 refer to as well as the numbers in the parenthesis 8-13. It was difficult to tease out what statistics were addressed with each of the variables. Also if you can provide more detail in the table for the age range definition for children versus adolescent. This table is very difficult to interpret.

Table 2 again has the statistics listed at the bottom of the table. Please reconstruct to show in detail the variable with its measure. Does Table 2 report the Clark Survey results? Does Table 3 report the results of the Edinburgh survey. Tables need to be reconstructed and titled appropriately.

2) Measures: The author states that the Clark and Edinburgh were modified. What does this mean? Again this section would benefit from greater detail. Does that mean modification was the translation into Arabic? or were questions or scoring modified? Some discussion as to whether these tools can be used in a pediatric population is also needed.

3) Measures were self-report Clarification is needed as to if the parent or caregiver also was asked about hypoglycemia events. Where is your evidence that these surveys can be taken and interrupted appropriately by a child great than 5 years of age. Can a child greater than 5 understand/read the survey and answer appropriately?

4) Conclusion and discussion: Because of the lack of detail in the body and Tables presented, it is difficult to say if the conclusions drawn are correct.
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.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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:

Acceptable

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