Reviewer’s report

Title: Differences in Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders, Hospice Care Utilization, and Late Referral to Hospice Care between Cancer and Non-cancer Decedents in a Tertiary Hospital in Taiwan between 2010 and 2015: A Hospital-Based Observational Study

Version: 0 Date: 10 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Christantie Effendy

Reviewer's report:

Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

Please overwrite this text when adding your comments to the authors.

It was an interesting article and I have several comments.

1. In the abstract:

   It is unclear background. The authors need to explain more detail the link between those variables with the policy of the hospice services in Taiwan. Please add the reason Why it is important to compare between cancer and non cancer ? what is the key massages of the study. In the conclusion, mention only highlight finding and specific recommendation.

2. In the body text:

   a. In the methods, please mention the reason for using the non parametric analysis for the TREND issues!

   b. In the results, please re-structure the finding for example: if the author want to explain cancer compare with non cancer, the author should be consistent with the structure that always start with the finding of cancer. Please re phase the results of trend and avoid repetition of the word "year 2010-2015" maybe better if the authors mention it on the sub title.

   Regarding the tables, please add notes below the tables to explain the abbreviation or the meaning of p value and other statistic meaning
c. In the discussion session, (there is no page number in this article) in the first paragraph line 28-35 it is unclear whether the data were about trend. In the 2nd paragraph, the authors mentioned about "previous studies" but only one citation for it.

d. In the conclusion, please mention specific recommendation related to the highlight finding of the study

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

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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