Reviewer's report

**Title:** Consensus on treatment for residents in long-term care facilities: perspectives from relatives and care staff in the PACE cross-sectional study in 6 European countries.

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 18 Jun 2019

**Reviewer:** Research Square

**Reviewer's report:**

"STATISTICAL REVIEWER ASSESSMENT:

Is the study design appropriate for the research question (considering whether the analyzed population accurately reflects the design and whether you see any problems with control/comparison groups, e.g., likely confounders)?
No - there are minor issues

Are methodologies adequate and well implemented (considering whether assumptions are addressed and whether analyses are robust)?
Yes - methodologies are adequate and well implemented, assumptions are addressed, analysis is robust

Are the analyses adequately communicated (considering whether reporting details are adequate and whether figures and tables are well labeled and described)?
Yes - important reporting details are present, analyses are adequately communicated, figures and tables are well labeled and described

Does the interpretation accurately reflect the analyses without overstatement (considering whether limitations/bias are acknowledged and whether accurate descriptors, e.g., 'significant', are used)?
Yes - interpretation accurately reflects analyses, limitations/bias are acknowledged, accurate descriptors are used

Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a statistically sound contribution?
Yes - current version has sound statistics

STATISTICAL REVIEWER COMMENTS:

The study addresses an important and interesting issue. The research is carried out well, generally speaking, and the results are informative.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:
The consensus questions for relatives and care staff are rather different. In particular, the care staff question has a specific reference to a time frame -- i.e., "care and treatment in the last month of the resident's life" -- which is not in the question for relatives. The authors need to discuss how the
wording difference may have affected the study findings.
Lines 198-200: The sentence is unclear. How could there be consensus according to relatives and "resident"? Residents were deceased and couldn't be surveyed.
The word, univariable, that appears in lines 200, 262, 278 and in Tables 2 and 3 should be bivariable. 

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.
No

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
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