Reviewer’s report

Title: Profiles of lipids, blood pressure and weight changes among premenopausal Chinese breast cancer patients after adjuvant chemotherapy

Version: 0 Date: 31 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Brandy-Joe Milliron

Reviewer's report:

Summary

This manuscript describes changes in body weight, blood pressure, and fasting lipid levels among premenopausal breast cancer patients in Hong Kong.

General Comments

* While the findings are interesting and add to the evidence base, much more detail should be included in this manuscript.

* Language should be revised for accuracy and clarity. Spelling and grammar errors need to be revised throughout.

Specific Comments

Abstract:

* Please briefly describe the setting or source of the data.

* Please mention age range in parentheses.

* The abstracts included in the submission have different titles in first section (Purpose vs Background). These should probably be the same unless otherwise indicated by the Journal instructions for authors.
Introduction: (P4)

* Line 32: Consider replacing "West" with specific names of countries.

* Tense changes. Please use consistent past tense when reviewing the literature.

* "Background Section" could be revised to "Background."

* Including information about the prevalence of breast cancer (and other relevant details) in Hong Kong would add interesting context. Does the prevalence of breast cancer in Hong Kong differ from the prevalence in China?

* Elevated risk for CVD outcomes in relation to breast cancer treatment regimen should be better described to provide a stronger rationale.

Objective(s):

* P4, Line 50: Please add "women" after "Chinese"

* P4, Line 50: Consider rewording so that this sentence reads The objectives of this prospective cross-sectional study… were to (1)… ; and (2) …

* P5, Line 4: Please add "and" before "(2)" and delete "to" if suggested revision from above is made.

Patients and Methods

* Please describe the setting and source of patients in detail.

* How were patients recruited?

* Where was data collected? In person? Internet? By phone or mail?
Data Collection:

* P6, Lines 44-45: Please revise for clarity. It does not appear that this sentence is completed either. Please replace “fill in” with “complete”

* P6, Line 32: Please list variables in parentheses after each category. For example: "Patients' demographics (X, X, and X), cancer characteristics (X, X, and X) …" or something similar.

* P6, Line 44: Was menstrual history the only item on the study questionnaire? If so, say so. If not, please provide details of content.

Definitions:

* P6, Line 54: Instead of referring to reference 14, please redefine menstrual status. If this is simply the definition on Line 59, delete that opening sentence on Line 54.

* P7, Line 9: How did the authors determine that weight gain is considered >2% increase. Please provide reference(s).

Results:

* How many patients were approached for participation? Did data collection occur in person (or how) on one single occasion? Where was data collected? Much more detail should be included regarding data collection and source of participants.

* What were the socio-demographic characteristics of the population?—Education, socio-economic status, employment status, etc? These are included in Table 1 and should be described in the body of the manuscript, and included in analyses.

* P8, Line 41: Was body weight at diagnosis self-reported? If so, this should be mentioned in the methods. Was it part of the questionnaire? More details should be included throughout the methods.

* P9, Line 9 and throughout: Please use consistent text format when writing numbers. Generally, single digits are spelled and more than single digit numbers are listed in numerical form, unless they are at the very beginning of a sentence.
* Tables 1-4 should be described in greater detail in the body of the manuscript.

Discussion:

* Overall, the discussion should be revised for clarity and organization.

* P11, Line 9: Please revise error - Should read "With increases in survival…" or "With increased survival…"

* P11, Line 14: Please list physical morbidities and psychosocial issues.

* P11, Line 21: Please revise "aspects" to something else. Perhaps "changes?" Also, revise error "weight and BMI and changes,"

* P11, Line 32: Please revise error "…cause of weight gaining." Also - consider revising "uncertain" to "unclear."

* P11, Line 34: Please change "difference" to "differences."

* P12, Lines 4-5: Please revise for clarity.

* Please discuss whether the changes in outcomes are clinically meaningful.

* P13, Line 47: Why is the data not shown? It would be relevant to the present investigation and should be shown here.

* Could the authors discuss the importance of their findings in relation to comorbidities, etc? For example, chemotherapy-related amenorrhea and weight gain - what are the implications? Why is this important?

Conclusions:

* Some revising is needed to improve clarity, but overall, the conclusion section is succinct.
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.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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