Reviewer's report

Title: Correlates of depressive symptoms in late middle-aged Taiwanese women: Findings from the 2009 Taiwan National Health Interview Survey

Version: 1 Date: 22 Jun 2016

Reviewer: Masakazu Terauchi

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study investigating the relationship between diabetes and depression in Taiwanese postmenopausal women, although my biggest concern is in the very usage of the term "postmenopausal". According to the authors, "postmenopausal women" were selected from female residents aged 50-65y excluding those who had regular periods. However, there should be many women in their late 40's and early 50's who still has menstruation not necessarily regular, who are regarded to be in "menopausal transition" or "perimenopause". As women's risk of suffering from depression or depressive symptoms are known to significantly increase in menopausal transition rather than in the postmenopausal period, menopausal status should be incorporated in the multivariate logistic regression analysis, or, at least, the title of the paper should be changed to "Association between ... in women aged 50-65y" etc. In the latter case, those who had been excluded from the study because they had regular menses should be included.

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.

No

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I am able to assess the statistics
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