Reviewer’s report

Title: Management of Constipation in Long-term Care Hospitals and its Ward Manager and Organization Factors

Version: 1 Date: 19 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Enrique Rey

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate the opportunity to review the manuscript "Management of Constipation in Long-term Care Hospitals and its Ward Manager and Organization Factors". It describes an interesting study about organizational issues around constipation in nursing homes. This topic is of major interest for people hospitalized in nursing homes but usually managers and staff do not care much on it; therefore, any effort for improving the problem is always welcome.

As authors state, the study provides for the first time a picture of factors that may impact on quality of constipation care. Methodology of the study is reasonable and most of the results sound quite logical.

In my mind, the main limitation of the study is the low response rate, which suggest biased results. This should be emphasized by the authors, as well as any effort performed to improve response rate. I suspect that the picture on organizational aspects of constipation is likely biased to "the best picture", if managers and nurses who responded are more likely compromised or involved in the care of constipation. Do authors make any interview to non-responders to identify the reason for not responding?

In any case, the main lesson provides by the results is that there is much to do on constipation care in nursing homes.

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.

Unable to assess

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.
Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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