Reviewer's report

Title: CoDiab-VD: protocol of a prospective population-based cohort study on diabetes care in Switzerland

Version: 4 Date: 12 June 2015

Reviewer: Miranda Schram

Reviewer's report:

The authors have been responsive to our critiques and have revised accordingly. However, weaknesses in the manuscript were still evident.

Minor Essential Revisions
1) The authors state that participants did not differ significantly from participants with diabetes of another population-based study conducted in the same region regarding common characteristics. Nevertheless, they did not provide any information of the other cohort. The manuscript lacks information on recruitment strategies of this cohort, response rates and other general characteristics of the cohort. In the cover letter, the authors indicate that the “low” participation rate remains within ranges of participation to similar studies/surveys. In fact, when the population-based study that included patients with diabetes in the same canton uses the same recruitment strategies or has the same “low” response rates, the question whether the study population is population-based and representative, still raises.

Miranda Schram
Stephanie Brinkhues

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'