Reviewer’s report

Title: Relative contribution of various chronic diseases and multi-morbidity to potential disability among Dutch elderly.

Version: 1 Date: 21 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Sarah Dennis

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for asking me to re-review this paper. The English is much improved and the methods and results are presented much more clearly now. My main comments relate to the discussion which is a bit repetitive and does not really answer the "so what?" question, especially in the middle section. I think there could be clearer policy and practice implications of knowing the conditions and combinations of conditions that people spend more years with and the type of health care required to meet their needs.

Minor comments:

Line 58-59 "however, because disability ……" sentence does not make sense

First line of discussion does not make sense and line 304 "Previous studies….." might be better positioned with content in the next paragraph although it is partially repeated there.

Can the authors clarify ethics approval - they appear to say that as it is publically available data that HREC is not required.

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.

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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