Reviewer’s report

Title: Prescribing errors in electronic prescriptions for outpatients intercepted by pharmacists and the impact of prescribing workload on error rate in a Chinese Tertiary-care Women and Children's Hospital

Version: 0 Date: 07 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Chaisiri Angkurawaranon

Reviewer's report:

Reviewer Report
Title: Prescribing errors in electronic prescriptions for outpatients intercepted by pharmacists and the impact of prescribing workload on error rate in a Chinese Tertiary-care Women and Children's Hospital (BHSR-D-19-01477)

General comments: Thank you for the opportunity to read this paper describing the rates in prescribing errors in electronic prescriptions in China. The study is well conducted but I have a couple of questions and suggestions which may help improve the manuscript.

1) One of the main features of this study was that the authors explored many potential factors associated with prescription error using logistic regression. Many of the predictors is a multi-level categorial variable. An overall p-value should be obtained from the likelihood ratio test. Alternatively, the r by c chi-square test should give similar results.

2) Related to comment 1), when writing the results of these regressions (page 7 lines 1-7), it's also useful to also state the comparators. For example, "pediatric patients aged 29 days to 12 years of age were more likely to experience prescribing error", than whom?

3) Lastly, the study wanted to explore the potential impact of prescribing workload on error rate. This seems to be the emphasis of the paper as it's also in the titled. However, the analysis of prescribing workload on error rate, differed from other analyses as the authors used Spearman correlation. There are two issues, the first is that the sample for analysis is now only the 32 time slots instead of the full dataset of over 150,000 prescriptions. The second issues is that the Spearman correlation is very sensitive to outlier. Particularly the point with the highest error rate is also the estimate with the highest imprecision (from figure3). As the authors have the time of each individual prescription, it could be assigned the prescribing workload for that corresponding period and logistic regression could be used similar to other previous analyses.

4) The manuscript may also improve if it is review by a native English speaker
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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal