Reviewer’s report

Title: The Societal Economic Burden of Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease in the United States

Version: 1 Date: 29 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Christopher Hollenbeak

Reviewer's report:

This study estimated the burden of ADPKD in the US in 2018. Using a prevalence approach and a societal perspective, the authors estimated total burden as well as incremental burden per patient relative to an average US citizen. Data came from the US census and from best available literature. Overall, they estimate that the total burden of ADPKD in 2018 was $7.3-9.6 billion, or $51,970-$68,091 per patient with ADPKD. Most of these costs were direct healthcare costs. Overall, this is a well-done study and is well written. It fills an important gap in the current literature on the burden of illness for ADPKD in the US. I have one minor suggestion. The authors compare the cost per patient relative to an average US citizen to compute the incremental cost. In reality, a better estimate would have been relative to US citizens with similar characteristics to those with ADPKD. The authors should comment on the demographics of patients with ADPKD and how they differ from the average US citizen to provide readers with a sense of whether the incremental difference is likely to be larger or smaller than the estimate provided.

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?
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Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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