Reviewer’s report

Title: Chronic morbidity, deprivation and primary medical care spending in England in 2015-16: a cross-sectional spatial analysis

Version: 0 Date: 15 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Roberto Nuño-Solinis

Reviewer's report:

The objectives, methods and conclusions of the paper are coherent and relevant for publication.

The authors have identified high variation in primary care funding in England and that more equitable resource allocation could be achieved if this funding is adjusted considering the chronic morbidity burden. They also have adequately acknowledged the limitations arising from the number of chronic conditions included in the dataset and the structure of the dataset that does not allow to consider the effect of multimorbidity.

The authors should consider the inclusion of policy implications/recommendations section and expanding it in a way relevant for policy-makers and healthcare managers outside the UK. The bibliography is rather limited and should be expanded including similar studies in other European countries (particularly with NHS-like health systems) that have analysed the effects of adjusting for morbidity burden and/or social deprivation in large datasets developed for allocation of funding, risk stratification or predictive modeling.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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