Reviewer’s report

Title: Healthcare Resource Utilization and Costs Associated with Inflammatory Bowel Disease among Patients with Chronic Inflammatory Diseases: A Retrospective Cohort Study

Version: 0 Date: 20 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Diederik de Cock

Reviewer's report:

Dear authors,

I want to thank you for this interesting read on the incidence of IBD in CID in this retrospective observational study of US claims databases. In general, the study is done adequately but i have some remarks.

-The biggest risk in interpreting these results is the major difference in age between the two population. Although I believe there was a basic adjustment for it in the poisson regression, a matched design would give a more valid estimate of the risk if IBD in CID if you want to compare it with the general population. Why did the authors not perform a propensity analysis to overcome this flaw?

Small remarks:
- Why were patients with cancer on certain drugs excluded? (also for transplants?)
- There seems to be overlap in the different diagnoses of CID. Was a sensitivity analysis performed with patients receiving DMARDs/steroids to check if the numbers have face validity.
- Were other comorbidities considered? This can be considered of importance in such a cost analysis
- US claims data is biased in types of patients who receive insurance. (eg Higher SES). This should be stated in the limitation section
- Is it surprising that patients with 2 comorbidities have higher costs than patients with 1 CM?

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.

No

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

**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.

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/](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