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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55676

Title: Degenerative Complications of Type 2 Diabetes: A Cross-Sectional Study in a Moroccan Population

Recommendation:

Accept as it is
Accept after minor revision.....
Accept after major revisionx.....
Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	x			
Techn. Quality	x			
Clarity	x			
Significance		x		

Reviewer Name: Dr. Mohammad Nadeem Khan

Detailed Reviewer's Report

1. General Assessment

The manuscript presents a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study evaluating the prevalence and determinants of microangiopathic and macroangiopathic complications among patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus in a Moroccan tertiary care setting. The topic is clinically relevant and addresses an important public health concern, particularly in low- and middle-income countries where the burden of diabetes-related complications is rising. The manuscript is generally well structured, with clear sections and appropriate use of tables. The findings contribute region-specific epidemiological data that may be valuable for clinicians and policymakers. However, several methodological, analytical, and presentation issues require attention before the manuscript can be considered for publication.

2. Major Comments

Study Design and Scope

- The cross-sectional design is appropriate for estimating prevalence; however, causal inferences should be avoided. Statements implying causality (e.g., insulin therapy “leading to” complications) should be rephrased to reflect associations.
- The study duration (two months) is relatively short and should be acknowledged more explicitly as a limitation, particularly regarding representativeness and seasonal variability.

Ethical Considerations

- The manuscript states that ethical committee approval was not required. While the use of routine clinical data may justify this, most international journals require at least institutional review board

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acknowledgment or waiver documentation. The authors should clarify institutional policy and include a formal ethics statement.

Statistical Analysis

- The rationale for grouping patients into three complication categories is appropriate; however, multivariate analysis is absent.
- A multivariable logistic regression adjusting for age, sex, diabetes duration, hypertension, dyslipidemia, and obesity would strengthen the conclusions regarding factors associated with micro- and macroangiopathy.
- The choice of JAMOVI software is acceptable, but the version and specific statistical assumptions (normality testing, handling of missing data) should be stated more clearly.

Interpretation of Results

- The association between poor glycemic control, insulin therapy, and microangiopathy is interesting but potentially confounded by disease duration and severity. This should be discussed more cautiously.
- The discussion would benefit from comparison with **recent international cohorts** (post-2020) to improve global contextualization.

3. Minor Comments**Language and Style**

- The manuscript contains multiple typographical errors, spacing issues, and formatting inconsistencies (e.g., “diabetesis,” “withseriousconsequences,” inconsistent spacing).
- Professional language editing is strongly recommended.

Tables and Presentation

- Tables 1 and 2 are informative but would benefit from:
 - Clear footnotes explaining abbreviations
 - Consistent decimal formatting
 - Explicit indication of statistically significant p-values using symbols (*)

References

- Several references are outdated (pre-2015). Inclusion of more recent guidelines (e.g., ADA/EASD updates post-2021) is recommended.
- Web references should include access dates and be formatted uniformly according to journal guidelines.

Strengths of the Study

- Addresses an important clinical problem in a real-world hospital setting
- Includes both microvascular and macrovascular complications

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- Uses standardized diagnostic criteria for complications
- Provides valuable epidemiological data from North Africa, an under-represented region in diabetes research

Limitations

- Cross-sectional design limits causal inference
- Small sample size reduces statistical power
- Lack of multivariate adjustment
- Absence of data on diet, physical activity intensity, medication adherence, and socioeconomic status