Reviewer's report

Title: Social Support and Quality of Life: A Cross-sectional Study in Survivors of the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake

Version: 2 Date: 15 March 2010

Reviewer: Frank Chou

Reviewer's report:

This is a potentially interesting study of social support and quality of life about earthquake survivors in China. There are some major issues should be addressed as below:

In background section

A) You mentioned that “few have been concerned with the impact of earthquake on health related quality of life (HRQoL) of the survivors[2,8,9]” in background section (in page 2), however, there are many articles have been published, for example, when you use key words to search for: [(health related quality of life) and earthquake] by Pubmed, you could find 5 articles that mentioned the relationship between quality of life and earthquake as below:


If you used [(quality of life) and earthquake] as key words, there are 27 articles can be found in Pubmed. So you should modify description according to the searching method and re-summarize these findings in the background section.

B) Because The purpose of this article is [the relationship between social support and quality of life], you should mention the importance of quality of life and social support. In addition, it is necessary to explain how social support affect quality of
life.

In method section (in page 3)
(Study subjects and procedure)
1. A good response rate (92.9%), please describe the reasons why subjects did not participate in this project.
2. Please describe the training program of investigators (include investigators’ reliability).

In Result and Discussion Section
Because most respondents are students, the rate of the respondents is different to general population. (table 1) How to adjust and discuss the difference (table 2 and 3)?
Too many tables or figures may confuse readers. Table 2 and Figure 1 should be omitted one because they are similar, you may describe the result of table 3 in body text and omit table 3. Of course, you should mention the bias and limitations of respondents and explain how to adjust it.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.