Reviewer’s report

Title: Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels Are Associated with Carotid Atherosclerosis in Normotensive and Euglycemic Chinese Postmenopausal women: The Shanghai Changfeng Study

Version: 9 Date: 9 November 2014

Reviewer: Marc Blondon

Reviewer’s report:

I appreciate the thorough answers to my previous review and believe that the paper is improved. I have no further major compulsory revisions.

I would recommend a few minor essential revisions:

(1) abstract: please add the statistical significance (either P values or 95%CI) for the CIMT results and plaque results.
(2) line 91: "and" instead of "which"
(3) line 118: "evidence is" instead of "evidences are"
(4) line 198: "used" instead of "use" + add the result of the homogeneity test of variance
(5) line 227: add P value.
(6) line 232: add 95%CI
(7) line 236: drop "the"
(8) line 261: I agree that the results are not confounded by hypertension and diabetes. To state that they are "not confounded" at all is an overstatement which needs to be corrected.
(9) lines 300-312: the discussion is very long and could be shortened. This paragraph could be dropped.
(10) lines 351-358: the potential for confounding by lifestyle factors remains, particularly in the absence of data for physical activity and socio-economic status. This could be acknowledged.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.