Reviewer's report

Title: Population versus hospital controls for case-control studies on cancers in Chinese hospitals

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Reviewer: Evgeny Imyanitov

Reviewer's report:

This is a very important article. It convincingly demonstrates that hospital controls can serve as a proper reference group at least in some case-control studies. The study is well designed and well presented. There is also a proper review of prior studies in this field and meaningful discussion. This paper has a high chance to be cited in the epidemiological literature.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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