Reviewer's report

Title: Mothers and daughters-in-law: A prospective study of informal care-giving arrangements and survival in Japan

Version: 2 Date: 5 June 2010

Reviewer: Masafumi Kuzuya

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions.

1. The authors have made revision that addressed my previous concerns. This reviewer was satisfied to see the statistic analysis in Table 3 (Model IV) in which authors have tried to adjust for the institutionalization. However, some explanations should be added in the method section. Or at least should describe in the table foot-note that the participants who were institutionalized during the follow-up as a censored sample at the moment of being institutionalized, although the reviewer recognized some explanations were made in the revised discussion.

There are some typographical errors in revised discussion.(p11, line 12, foot-note in Table 3)

Level of interest: An article of importance 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' below.