Title: Urinary albumin excretion and prevalence of microalbuminuria in a general Chinese population: a cross-sectional study

Version: 3
Date: 23 July 2014
Reviewer: Yangfeng Wu

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. Microalbuminuria was defined in two ways in this paper. Both (30mg/d#UAE#300mg/d) and (30mg/d#UAE) were used to define microalbuminuria, but in different parts of analysis. It should be identical. This may actually cause the difference in the results from Table 3 and 4.
2. The authors stated that the stepwise approach was used for multivariable regression analysis, but results shown in Table 3 and 4 are not in that way. In the correct format, only the results from the final step should be shown and those results with p<0.05 should not present in the table.
3. The authors concluded a J-shape relationship between blood pressure and MAU. However, their data (Figure 2) does not support this.
4. The authors need to clarify if any adjustment was made in the analysis for data shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3.
5. Language needs to be improved by native speakers.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. In the paragraph of Results in Abstract, "for all" should be added after 6.1mg/d (4.5-8.7), and "progression to" should be taken out from the last sentence.
2. "target" should be taken out from the Conclusion.
3. In statistical methods section, the authors stated that Log(n)UAE was used as the dependent variable, but they also need to tell why.
4. In Table 1, % of hypertension and % of anti-hypertension treatment are so close and % of anti-hypertension treatment sometimes are even higher. These looks strange. Please clarify the definitions and used the international widely accepted criteria.

Discretionary Revisions:
1. In Table 2, instead of using "Median P5 Q1 Q3 P95", this reviewer would suggest to use "Mean P5 P25 P50 P75 P95"
2. In Table 3, this reviewer would suggest to delete two columns entitled "SE" and "Standardized#"
3. In Table 4, this reviewer would suggest to delete the column entitled "Wald x2"
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests