Reviewer’s report

Title: Chlamydia pneumoniae infection and cerebrovascular disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 29 September 2013

Reviewer: Qian Jia

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The present paper assessed the association between C. pneumoniae infection and CV disease from all available serological and pathological studies. The question mentioned in the paper was defined well. The strength is the sufficient enrolled studies. The results were analyzed with reasonable analysis methods and the data seemed sound. The discussion was adequate and the limitations were stated clearly.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. ABSTRACT:

Results and Conclusion:

“No significant association was found in serum IgM or in-situ-detection of arterial biopsies.” What did the serum IgM or in-situ-detection of arterial biopsies have no significant association with? The authors should note that clearly.

“Subgroup analysis by available studies showed that the association was strongest in patients with stroke of large artery atherosclerosis, but less significant in patients with a stroke due to cardioembilism or other etiologies.” Does it mean that the significant association was found in the patients with atherosclerotic stroke but not in those with other etiology? The description of strongest, higher, or less association may bring confused. It is enough to clarify whether significant association was found or not.

2. INTRODUCTION:

What’s the meaning of “premature morbidity and mortality”? “infection burden” should be explained clearly.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. There are several spelling mistakes in the manuscript, for instance, “INTORDUCION” in page 2, “size(odds ratio)nd” in the part of “Statistical Analysis ” in page 4, and “DISSCUSSION” in page 8.

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