Reviewer's report

Title: Factors influencing the quality of preconception healthcare in China: Applying a preconceptional instrument to assess healthcare needs

Version: 3 Date: 23 May 2014

Reviewer: I Nippert

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

a) The Netherlands did not publish national guidelines. The quoted report by the Dutch Health Council includes recommendations not guidelines.


c) An important Systematic Review of Preconception Risks and Interventions has been done and published by S. V Dean, A. M Imam, Z.S Lassi, Zulfiqar A Bhutta, Aga Khan University, (https://globalmotherchildresearch.tghn.org/site_media/media/articles/Preconception_Report.pdf) 2013

d) p.1/background/" Pre-marriage and preconception health .... please be more specific in regard to the dates (years)

e) General health indicators: The sentence following: In Jiangsu province, the weights of male participants...states In Hebei province, the weight of female participants...This is somewhat confusing. Do the authors mean male participants from Hebei province?

f) Please specify in the headings of the tables whether the data refer to the study population referred to such as female participants only, couples, etc. what does the term "unemployed" means: actively seeking work ; student; housewife Is the status reported for females only ?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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.