Reviewer's report

Title: Breast cancer stage at diagnosis and area-based socioeconomic status: A multicenter 10-year retrospective clinical epidemiological study in China

Version: 3 Date: 9 March 2012

Reviewer: Xue Qin Yu

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript has been improved. In my opinion, it would be better if the authors avoid using the word "representative" sample of breast cancer in China. The quality of the manuscript will be improved further if they have some statements in the Discussion like this:

Although we only include women with breast cancer attended to these 7 regional referral hospitals, we expect the effect of SES and later stage of diagnosis will be much stronger than we found in this study (if we included those women attended at local hospitals, such county hospitals).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.