Reviewer's report

Title: Increased Risk of Cancer among Relatives of Patients with Lung Cancer in China

Version: 1 Date: 3 August 2005

Reviewer: Chikako Kiyohara

Reviewer's report:

General
The main result is that increased risk of lung cancer was associated with first-degree family history of lung cancer among females. This result may imply that females are more susceptible to cancer development than males. This area of research the authors studied has not gotten a lot of attention because many studies had been done and reported on this topic in the remote past.

Taken together, the current version is not very interesting and incomplete.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1) Manuscript writing is not appropriately done.
   For example:
   The sentences which should be described in "Results section" have described in "Background section".
   "Abstract section" is rough for the readers, who may not be experts in this field, to understand. Methods in "Abstract section" is very confusing.
   2) There are several incorrect or obscure sentences.
      For example:
      Page 9, lines 9-10 (For the 4378 first-degree relatives......).
      Page 10, lines 11-12 (There was, however, a significant risk......................).
   4) Ill-fitted or unconsidered words.
      For example:
      Retrospective case-control study=>case-control study
      Lung cancer proband=>lung cancer case

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1) There is much misspelling.
   For example:
   Futher (page 3), stusy...(page 6).
   2) Fonts more than two kinds coexist.
   3) Space between the lines is inconsistent.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Which journal?: Not appropriate for BMC Medicine: an article of only archival interest, but might be suited to BMC Cancer
What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.