Reviewer's report

Title: Frequent nocturnal awakening in children: prevalence, risk factors, and associations with subjective sleep perception and daytime sleepiness

Version: 3 Date: 25 May 2014

Reviewer: Monique LeBourgeois

Reviewer's report:

The authors have made substantial revisions, which strengthened the manuscript. I have no substantive comments; however, concerns about the quality of the writing still exist.

Major Compulsory Revisions

The following are parts of the manuscript (not an exhaustive list) that remain awkward and/or reflect poor grammar or sentences with typos.

Introduction:

“The finding emphasized the possibility of genetic susceptibility in the aetiology of insomnia.”

“As an important clinical complaint in pediatric and child psychiatry practice, childhood insomnia symptoms resulted in daytime functional impairments not only for child but also for family. A longitudinal study confirmed that approximately 60% of childhood insomnia symptoms can continue into early adolescents.”

Methods:

“To the best of our knowledge, the definition of adolescence was differed between different countries.”

“Sleep behaviors was assessed by a parents-administrated questionnaire -- the Children’s Sleep Habits Questionnaire (CSHQ)…”

“The children were asked to indicate the frequency of his/her feeling, behavior, and attitude for each item over a “typical” recent week using a 5-point scale.”

Results:

“Significantly gender difference was found with boys higher prevalent (10.0% vs. 8.9%…”

“An interesting age-dependent difference was also found: gradually increased with increasing age…”

• References to Tables are in past tense, which is awkward.
Discussion:

“Using a relatively critical criteria, our study indicated that 9.8% of Chinese school-aged children…”

“The present study found that, compare to girls, boys were tended to…”

“Because of the limited knowledge on the aetiology of insomnia, it’s not easy to explain…”

“It was reported that psychological variables can play both predisposing and precipitating role in the development…”

“Thirdly, the reliability of the CPSS was examined, however, validity estimates was unavailable currently.”

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.