Reviewer’s report

Title: Socioeconomic inequalities in cardiovascular mortality and the role of childhood socioeconomic conditions and adulthood risk factors: a prospective cohort study with 17-years of follow up

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Reviewer: Therese Tillin

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well-written manuscript examining socioeconomic determinants of CVD mortality in the Netherlands. The statistical analyses appear to be soundly conducted. My main concern (major compulsory revision) would be that socioeconomic status in adulthood is defined solely upon respondents' highest attained educational level- presumably due to lack of a marker of respondent's own occupational status(?) . I feel that educational attainment is so closely associated with both childhood and adulthood SEP, that it is not possible to use education alone as a marker of adult SEP and that what your are explaining (or not) is the role of educational status rather than adult SEP as a determinant of CVD mortality. I'm sure that this is arguable! I realise that you allude briefly to this in your discussion, but to me it requires further unpacking.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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