Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of low back pain and associated occupational factors among Chinese coal miners

Version: 7 Date: 25 January 2012

Reviewer: Chris Jensen

Reviewer’s report:

I agree with one of the other reviewers that we have previously seen studies like this that identify occupational factors such as extreme postures and lack of recovery that are associated with LBP. However, as mentioned, reporting of LBP may also be influenced by cultural factors, and while such a cross-sectional study probably should not be published if based on European work places it makes sense to show and publish findings from other cultures.

I have one comment for the manuscript which relates to the changes the authors have implemented. The have deleted the word "risk" and replaced it with "occupational". This should be written slightly different throughout the Discussion. One example is: "extreme bending posture in a confined space was a major occupational factor for LBP" This could be written "extreme bending posture in a confined space was highly associated with LBP"

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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