Reviewer's report

Title: The Use of Complementary and Alternative Medicine by People with Cardiovascular Disease: A systematic review

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Reviewer: Jianping Liu

Reviewer's report:

This review addressed an important question about prevalence of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) in people with cardiovascular disease (CVD) by reviewing literature from published papers. The findings are useful to both general practitioners and CAM researchers. Some major issues are to be addressed before it is accepted:

1. The inclusion criteria for studies to be reviewed were clearly defined, but in the results, it is not clear about the types of studies included in this review. Authors should report explicitly the proportion of different types of studies such as cohort study, case-control study, survey, etc, so the readers can have basic understanding of the study types in this area.

2. There was inconsistency regarding the number of studies included. In the abstract, authors said 25 studies were included, but in the results, it said 27 studies included.

3. In the abstract, second sentence in the conclusions should be moved to results.

4. Since the authors identify studies which were mainly published in the western countries, authors should discuss about possible limitations of the findings since herbal medicines are very commonly used in CVD patients in east Asian countries such as China, Japan, and Korea. Also, since authors only included studies published in English, there is also possible limitation among publications in different languages.

5. There are some typo errors need to be corrected.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests'