Reviewer's report

**Title:** Study on behavioral characteristics of MSM who are more inclined to try high-risk sexual behaviors--A data survey based upon nine large- and medium-sized cities in China

**Version:** 4 **Date:** 7 September 2011

**Reviewer:** Bukola Fawole

**Reviewer's report:**

Authors have conducted a survey in 9 large cities in China and identified MSM with pre-specified characteristics as high risk group compared with MSM without such characteristics. They aim to identify mental and behavioural characteristics with a view to determining targeted interventions.

**Major compulsory revisions**
1. It is important that someone proficient in English reviews this manuscript.
2. In the Results section, the number of participants in each group should be stated.
3. Conclusion reported within the Results section is out of place.

**Minor essential revisions**
1. It is customary to report in the past tense.
2. Table 1: Please use appropriate chi square symbol; Monthly income figures do not tally, it is also important to report the currency. Standard of culture may be replaced with ‘level of education’. Profession properties is unclear; may be replaced with a better term.
3. Table 3: This Table is poorly formatted. It is difficult to know which figures correspond with some variables.
4. Table 4: Is it the median (range) that is being reported? It should be so indicated within the Table for clarity.

**Discretionary revisions**
1. Given the mode of selection of participants, this study design seems to be a nested case-control study.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests