Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Intervening to reduce cardiovascular disease risk in an ethnic community: The South Asian Cardiovascular Health Assessment and Management Program (SA-CHAMP)

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 15 October 2012

**Reviewer:** devaki R nair

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The authors have assessed CVD Risk in South Asian population at the screening event and reassessed a group 1 year later and have shown significant reduction in cholesterol and T Cholesterol and HDL ratio.

This is the way forward for the population in this study in all parts of the world and the authors should be congratulated on this innovative methodology to access this hard to reach population especially the use of community workers. Nearly one third of the population were diabetic; were the triglycerides measured at all?. As varying triglycerides can have an impact on HDL measurement and therefore TC/HDL ratio. LDX POCT instrument is quite suitable for use in such screening procedures.

See ref

But the limitations in relation to high TG a common abnormality in this population should not be ignored.

Was there any change noted in HDL levels?

There is greater prevalence central abdominal obesity in South Asians and was weight or waist measurements recorded?

Was the decrease in Cholesterol or TC/HDL ratio associated with any change in anthropometric changes?

A similar screen found high prevalence of central abdominal obesity in this population, similar to the screening done by Charlotte Jones, using community volunteers to assist in recruiting and conducting the screen. see reference below


Cardiovascular risk assessment of South Asians in a religious setting: a feasibility study.

It is interesting to note that there is improvement but it is not clear what interventions lead to the change. Were people with Diabetes started on metformin? At follow up was there a review of their medication which may have had an impact on their lipids?

If anthropometry was carried out it would show if change in lipids is related to this.