Reviewer's report

Title: Regional differences in diabetes prevalence and awareness between coastal and interior provinces in China: a population-based cross-sectional study

Version: 3 Date: 28 December 2012

Reviewer: Hang Li

Reviewer's report:

- Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)
  
  In Background part: The sentence “Among multiple factors that affect the incidence of diabetes, family history…” looks like little relation with the context.

  In Conclusions part: “In addition, we found family history of diabetes was the only risk factor independently associated with diabetes awareness in China”, whether it is appropriate to use the data in this paper to represent “China”.

  In footnote of Table 3, whether the “ethnics”, “education”, and “yearly family income” should be added before ”alcohol drinking, and physical activity in Fujian were not significantly associated with diabetes prevalence and were not included in the final model”.

- Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

  In Results part: In 2nd paragraph, “Diabetes awareness for total population and female…”, the “female” should be changed to “male”.

  In Table 1, “%” should be added in “family history of diabetes” in “Shaanxi” column, and “0 of number of metabolic risk factors” in “Fujian” column.

- Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

  None

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

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