Reviewer's report

**Title:** Status and influencing factors of health behavioral knowledge among the elderly in China: A community-based cross-sectional study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 11 March 2013

**Reviewer:** wenjun ma

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors described the knowledge of healthy behaviors for the elderly in four Chinese communities. In general, it is helpful for policy maker to form community based intervention policy. However, the manuscript has large room to be improved.

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**

  1. **Introduction:** The authors should clarify why they do this study based on a critical review. What is the novelty of the study? Why the authors emphasize the association between the elderly and their children? How do you think the theory of KABP (knowledge, attitude, belief and practice) in behavior change.

  2. **Method:** this section has a great room to be improved. What is the sample size? How do you calculate it? Please describe the sampling protocol in detail? How do you randomize the sample? Is the sample representative? What is the response rate of the sample? Why do you think score 24 is adequate for health?

  3. **Results:** I think Fig1 and Fig2 are not necessary because you need not show the proportion for every question. Is it appropriate to analyze all different types of knowledge (sleep, injury, diet, etc) in one paper? Could you only focus on one of these in this paper because it is difficult when you analyze the related risk factors.

  4. **Discussion:**

  5. **English writing is not satisfactory and logical.**

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

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

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

no