Reviewer's report

Title: Increased Risk and Related Factors of Depression among Patients with COPD: A Population-Based Cohort Study

Version: 1 Date: 2 April 2013

Reviewer: Shifu Xiao

Reviewer's report:

Firstly, the study found that the incidence of depression decreased by year since diagnosis of COPD being made. But man and woman may react to the diagnosis and suffering of COPD with different patterns, as was demonstrated in previous studies. So I suggest the author further divide the COPD population into male and female cohort when analyzing their risk of depression at different time-point after COPD diagnosis. #Major Compulsory Revisions#

Secondly, for COPD population, psycho-social factors, rather than other factors, may play important role in the development of depression. But this is not well discussed in the first paragraph of “DISCUSSION”. More relevant comments with references regarding chronic physical stress-caused depression should be added to this part. #Major Compulsory Revisions#

Thirdly, in the section of “CONCLUSION”, the authors should not simply repeat words and contents that appear in the section of “RESULTS”. The authors should make more conclusive comments based on their findings considering the differences between these findings and those reported in previous studies, and the limitations of this study as well. #Discretionary Revisions#

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.