Reviewer's report

Title: Individual social capital and survival. A population study with 5 years follow up

Version: 2 Date: 1 July 2014

Reviewer: Jun Aida

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The study is important because there have been small number of cohort studies on social capital and health. The comments are aims to improve the manuscript.

Major Compulsory Revisions;
Social capital variables were treated as continuous variables. Is it valid? Results of the analysis which treated social capital variables as categorical variables should be shown.

Role of social network is different among age. Young people in schools often meet friends. Older people especially men who retired job have fewer chance to meet friends. This phenomena may be explain the inverse association of social network and mortality among men. Analysis stratified by age should be conducted.

Minor Essential Revisions;
The survey included very young child aged 0? Could such young children understand questionnaire? The range of age should be shown.

Page 9. Line line 200: Table 3 is mistake.

Although table 3 shows the result of overall social capital (sum of four dimensions), its descriptive statistics is not shown in table 2. It’s should be shown.

Page 9, line 200: “Table 3 shows the other covariates and social capital variables according to gender.” : Is it Table 2 ?

Page 10, line 211: Table 2 should be table 3.

Lower response rate should be discussed as a limitation.

Table 2: Mean and distribution of Trust were 0.00 {0.08 , 0.08} for women and -0.01 {0.08 , 0.08} for men. The values seems to be inaccurate. It may be the same in the variable of “Tertiy education in years”.

Figure 3: There is an “arrow” in the 95%CI bar.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.