Reviewer's report

Title: Chronic effects of ambient air pollution on respiratory morbidities among Chinese children: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 25 September 2013

Reviewer: Mukesh Dherani

Reviewer's report:

Title: Title need to be more reflective of the population. It is Chinese population from Hong Kong.

Methods: (essential revisions)
- What are the cut off points for choosing LPD, MPD, and HDP?
- How the three of the ten districts were chosen? Random or convenient sampling?
- Similarly, please state how the selected schools were chosen from all the schools of the district?
- Why only Chinese ethnicity was a selection criteria? It may limit the generalisability of the study results – you may need to refer to this in your discussion.
- Please state the significance of chosen age group.

Statistical analysis: (suggestion)
- Were there homes using biomass fuels such as wood, crop residues for cooking. Given, Hong Kong this is unlikely, as mentioned therefore, title should be reflective of this.

Results:
- Please provide justification of stratification of results by gender. You may have used sex an interaction term
- Why age was adjusted for when it was restricted only to 8-10 years?

Discussion:
- On page 11 at one point you describe PM10 responsible for respiratory morbidity in your study and later mention PM10 to be regarded as pollutant indicator rather than pollutant itself. It is now clearly recognized that PM are pollutants.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being
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