Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors among truck drivers in the south of Brazil

Version: 1 Date: 17 August 2014

Reviewer: Ruey-Hong Wong

Reviewer’s report:

Introduction section
In page 4, the first, second, and third paragraphs should be combined.

Material and method section
In page 5, the last four paragraphs should be combined.

Occupational history including employment duration in the transportation should be presented.

How to define “long-distance” truck drivers?

Subsection of statistical analysis should be revised. For example, in page 9, authors stated the numerical variables (i.e., age and education) were summarized with averages, quartiles, minima, maxima and standard deviations. However, we can’t found them in the text. Also, in Tables 2 and 3, we can’t find “Fisher’s exact test “. Authors also indicated student’s t test was used to compare the averages of the numerical variables between the two groups of independent samples. To compare the averages of more than two groups, analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used. However, they can’t be observed in the section of Result or Tables.

Result and Table/Figure section
Table 1 should be condensed. Mutual categories should be eliminated. Also, Tables 2 and 3 should be condensed; the percent frequencies should be eliminated.

Why the sum of percent frequencies for all categories in figure 1 is greater than 100%?

In page 11, authors described the presence of risk factor occurred in various combinations. However, “concomitant presence” should not be “associated or association”.

Age effect needs to be considered in all statistical analysis, and a multi-variables model should be constructed.

Discussion section
This is a descriptive study that focused on the prevalence estimate of cardiovascular risk factors in truck drivers. A key point is how to demonstrate the representative of this study sample. For example, the prevalence of alcohol drinking in this study sample is high; however, smoking prevalence is low.

Further, both of age and education effect were ignored in this study. However, age and educational level could largely affect the prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors. Truck drivers who have a longer employment might also have a higher prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors. Unfortunately, the effects of age, educational level, and employment history didn't be evaluated in this study.

Reference format should be corrected.

**Level of interest:** An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no competing interests