Reviewer’s report

Title: Asian-White Differences in Short Sleep Duration by Industry of Employment and Occupation in the US: A Cross-sectional Study

Version: 2 Date: 20 February 2014

Reviewer: Valentina Gumenyuk

Reviewer’s report:

The current manuscript is well written and addressing important issues - racial factor in duration of sleep with respect to occupation and industry in cross-sectional study. Specifically it is looking at the short vs. adequate sleep in Asians across different type of occupations, educations and income in 8,390 asians vs. 117,220 whites as a control.

I think, the study is incomplete and require either more analysis if that will be possible, or further consideration about another study (either lab or field sub study) where authors can fill out all missing information which they are mentioned in the long limitation list.

For example, we have no idea how many Ss were shift / rotated workers, or having second job, or having little kids or care givers are present in the each sample. All these factors as well as those listed in the limitation list are very important to take into account prior to making any conclusions regarding the higher preferences for short sleep among Asians as compared to Whites.

The current study does not present solid evidences and clear results regarding the cause of the short sleep, however, authors are trying to bring a stress as one potential factor, but I do not see the data regarding this measure.

Minor:

Page. 5: ”... the interviewers did obtain information from each member of the sampled household on continuous basis each week”. The reader wants to know when interviews started, and how frequent per year they been conducted. Or it was just once a year?

Page 6: how sleep duration was defined ? It is not clear whether participants have been asked for how long they sleep per 24 hours (TST) including weekend, or how long they stay in bed (TIB) for 24 hours?

Page 11: SD for age is missing

Page 14: I would change the following sentence : Racial/ethnic health disparities are likely influenced by occupational environments AND stressors......”

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.