Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Health related quality of life measured by SF-36: a population-based study in Shanghai, China

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 25 April 2008

**Reviewer:** Ute Ellert

**Reviewer’s report:**

This is an interesting manuscript describing the verification of the feasibility and reliability of the Mandarin SF-36 version in the population of Shanghai. The question and the methods are clearly described and well discussed and the limitations of the study are described properly.

- Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

  page 3, section background, 2nd break: reference 2 doesn’t seem to be adequate

- Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

  The term ‘risk factor’ is not specified clearly. Is it only about factors which have a negative influence on quality of life? In particular in the chapter ‘Risk factors’ in the results section, it is not clear in which direction the described risk factors operate. In table 4 it is not clear, for example, which gender influences the quality of life. This should be verbalized more clearly.

Quality of written English: Revision by native speaker recommended

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**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.