Reviewer's report

Title: Does economic development contribute to sex differences in ischaemic heart disease mortality? Hong Kong as a natural experiment using a case-control study

Version: 1 Date: 6 July 2007

Reviewer: Siegfried Geyer

Reviewer's report:

General

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

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

This is an interesting paper dealing with an important topic. The paper can be accepted for publication, the authors should complete the paper by providing some additional information:

1) The research question should be stated more clearly at the end of the introductory section.

2) Page 4, 1st paragraph: It is not clear how the data on demographic characteristics and health behaviours were collected. Please describe more precisely.

3) Page 5, last paragraph: Are the data on education, housing type and smoking status part of the survey or where did the data come from?

4) The results presented in tables 2 and 3 are adjusted for socio-economic status and for lifestyle. It would be interesting to have the effects of these two in order to judge about the relative contribution of social differentiation as compared to migrant status (may be the effect of migrant status is secondary to socio-economic position).

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions
**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**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