Reviewer’s report

Title: Patterns, aetiology and risk factors of intimate partner violence-related injuries to head, neck and face in Chinese women: A retrospective study

Version: 2 Date: 20 November 2013

Reviewer: N. Zoe Hilton

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have responded to the reviewers’ comments and the rationale is stronger, the potential problems of the data and how they were handled are dealt with in the method section, and a measure of inter-rater agreement (although not a strong method) has been included.

Minor Essential

1. page 5, the line “consideration of the causal relationships among the variables” should state “consideration of the hypothesized causal relationships among the variables.”

2. I still find the description of the regression analyses confusing. The authors cite Lam, Fong, Lauder, and Lam (2002) are cited for the analysis, perhaps because their article describes the steps used in that particular study. Please provide the same details of the steps in the current study. It seems to me that the multi-phases are actually separate regression analyses and this might elsewhere be called set-wise regression. Were significant variables at one phase forced into the analysis for the next phase?

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 published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.