Reviewer's report

Title: Gender differences in prevalence and associations for use of CAM in a large population study

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Reviewer: Upali W. Jayasinghe

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Ms. Ref. No.: 1391381910133146

Title: Gender differences in prevalence and associations for use of CAM in a large population study.

In this paper authors report the prevalence and characteristics of male and female users of CAM. This is an interesting article. However, there are some issues that the authors should address.

Major compulsory revisions

1. No page numbers given.

Abstract

2. “a total use of 13%, 17% among women” is not clear. Probably what authors mean is “13% to 17% among women.

Method

3. Para 1: Authors have mentioned about a health screening program: more details about screening program should be given.

4. Para 1: Authors say men and women completed two self-administered questionnaires, however they do not mention how reliable the questionnaires are. Authors should give Cronbach’s # etc.

Tables

6. In tables add a note to indicate how p values are computed (using what statistical analyses). Tables should stand-alone.

7. Presentation of Tables 4 & 5 need to be improved. For example, the word “men” is unnecessary in the table as the title of the table already indicates the table relates to male users. Therefore it is appropriate to exclude word “men” from the table and replace that with Cam 1 and then under Cam 1 show sub-headings “Non-user” and “Users”. Same could be applied to Cam 2 & Cam 3 as well. (Also modify Table 5 accordingly).

8. Authors should check the accuracy of p values. For example in Table 4, p-values for ethnicity of CAM 2 users appears to be incorrect. Further all p values for ethnicity in Table 5 seem not correct and not significant.
**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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'