Reviewer’s report

Title: The use of annual physical examinations among the elderly in rural China: a cross-sectional study

Version: 5 Date: 9 November 2013

Reviewer: Iris Chi

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have addressed some of (not all) the comments I made last time. Here are my comments to the revised manuscript:

1. May be this ms. needs a more specific topic. This study has a focus on health knowledge and health communication channels.
2. Authors should at least control for the socio-demographic data in their multivariate analysis.
3. There are some mistakes in reporting the results in abstract. For instance, those acquiring "average" health knowledge used more physical examinations is missing. "Self-employed or migrant workers" was not significant in the study.
4. It would be interested to know why average health knowledge is a significant factor while those who had above average health knowledge isn’t.
5. This study has many limitations (not just one) and it is authors’ responsibility to list all of them.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.