Reviewer's report

Title: Usage frequency of traditional Chinese medicine in Taiwan

Version: 2 Date: 15 December 2006

Reviewer: Lyren Chiu

Reviewer's report:

General

The revised manuscript is much improved and could be considered for publication.

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

1. A few spelling or grammatical (in particular, “tense”) errors and inappropriate use of language still exist. For example, the last sentence of the first paragraph on page 4 requires of being rephrased. The authors may consider hiring a real professional editor.
2. Be consistent among the following terms: use, usage, utilize. For example, use of TCM or TCM use. Usage refers to customary use, which is not part of Western practice. You may consider “use” instead.
3. Be precise. Avoid repeating sentences or information, e.g., page 4 and 5 re: national health insurance.
4. I don’t feel comfortable to use “predominate” because of 1.13:1 ratio. The two groups did not distinguish that much. I may say “Among TCM users, female is higher than male.”
5. On page 4, 2nd sentence requires a citation.
6. Please refer to page 7. Please double check table 2, the age distribution. I found the distribution peaked in 30s, followed by 20s and 60s (64.8%), then 40s (62.1%). Please clarify what “sharply” mean. I don’t see much difference between 20s and 30s.
7. Please refer to page 7, the last sentence of the first paragraph, under Results. Please define teenage and indicate where could find the frequency of this group in Table 2.
8. Please refer to page 8, the last sentence of the first paragraph. The only figure I could find in this manuscript did not provide information that the authors described.
9. Please refer to page 8, the first sentence of the 3rd paragraph. Please be consistent in adding frequency after the number.
10. Please refer to page 10 and onward. I would suggest the authors not to use oriental countries. This term attached negative meaning. The authors could use Asian countries instead.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.