Reviewer’s report

Title: Burden of Ischaemic Heart Disease and Attributable Risk Factors in China from 1990 to 2015: Findings from the Global Burden of Disease 2015 Study

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Reviewer: Amr Barakat

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Zhang et al. used the Global Burden of Disease 2015 data to evaluate IHD burden and its attributable risk factors across Chinese Provinces. Their analysis showed that, between 1990 and 2015, IHD related death rates and DALYs have increased significantly over the study period, however age-adjusted DALYs have decreased. They also show that IHD burden increased in the majority of the Chinese provinces prior to 2005, yet declined afterwards. IHD burden seems to be lower in southern provinces compared to northern ones provinces. IHD burden in China was largely attributable to environmental, behavioral and metabolic risk factors, top 5 being systolic BP, high total cholesterol, high sodium and low-whole grain diet, and smoking.

The study provides important epidemiological insights and the data is well presented. I have the following comment:

The authors state that "regional differences partly caused by the differences in behavior and life styles, environmental qualities, meteorological conditions, and household income levels between different regions…. Southeastern coastal provinces went through lighter IHD burden as those provinces had higher household income, lower air pollutions, warm climate conditions and eating habits closed to the Mediterranean diet or Japanese diet". Do the authors have data on differences between provinces in other top IHD risk factors, importantly smoking rates, systolic BP and total cholesterol?

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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