Reviewer’s report

Title: The Association of Religious Affiliation with Cholesterol Levels among South Asians: The Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians Living in America Study

Version: 0 Date: 21 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Katarzyna Cierpka-Kmiec

Reviewer's report:

1. In the Abstract section, please use the consistent expression of data, mean±SD not median.

2. Please provide cholesterol medication use according to religious affiliation. Currently, it remains unclear whether lipid lowering therapy affects the distribution of dyslipidaemia according to religious affiliation.

   Particularly that 74% of participants belonged to one religious' affiliation, and the remaining religious groups included not more than 5-7% of participants.

3. Please provide data for body mass index and waist circumference. Were cholesterol levels associated with overweight and abdominal obesity?

   It would be clinically important to determine whether Asian living in US for approximately half of their lives become obese compared to Asian living in their original country. Currently, it has not been sufficiently justified that religious affiliation impact on lipid abnormalities.

4. Please provide lipid data for men and women separately according to religious affiliation (Table 1). How many women were postmenopausal? This could have an impact on lipid abnormalities.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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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