Reviewer’s report

Title: Health literacy among older adults is associated with their 10-years' cognitive functioning and decline - the Doetinchem Cohort Study

Version: 0 Date: 20 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Mei-Ju Chi

Reviewer's report:

1. According to the health literacy definition from WHO, "Health literacy represents the cognitive and social skills that determines the motivation and ability of people to access, understand, and use information in ways that promote and maintain good health”, the relation between cognitive functioning and health literacy has already been proofed. The research is not innovative enough.

2. This research used a cohort study database which included multivariate such as lifestyle, bio-markers, health and disease...etc. These variables also have a significant impact on health literacy, but authors only adjusted for age, gender and education. I suggest that adding health and disease variables into the logistic model to increase the persuasiveness of results.

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.

No

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

No

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 recommend additional statistical review
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Acceptable

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