Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between anemia and frailty in 13,175 community-dwelling adults aged 50 years and older in China

Version: 0 Date: 20 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Aisling O'Halloran

Reviewer's report:

This is well written and interesting study reporting an association between frailty as measured by the Deficit accumulation Frailty Index and anemia based on measureed haemoglobin. However, there are a few issues I would like the authors to address before I can recommend this manuscript for acceptance.

Minor revision.
1. Please describe in the methods any measures of BMI and nutritional intake more clearly.
2. Please make sure that all measures used in tables and figures are described clearly and consistently in the methods e.g. residence, income quintile, alcohol consumption.
2. In the results please clearly state (referring to the appropriate table) when nutritional intake of fruit and veg was included in the statistical models. This measure of fruit and veg intake is an important confounder of anemia, if data on intakes of red meat have also been gathered would also be useful.
3. Page 6, line 47 - “Higher wealth was also associated with higher anemia rates” - this is counterintuitive and an unexpected finding. I would ask the authors to address this finding in the discussion please.

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:

Acceptable

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