Reviewer’s report

Title: The interplay between individual social behavior and clinical symptoms in small clustered groups

Version: 1 Date: 15 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Ngai Sze Wong

Reviewer's report:

Thanks for the big effort on addressing the comments. I have only 3 minor comments (optional) for authors' consideration.

1. Thanks for including SD in RESULTS. But the SD for "at least 1.29 hour per day in social interactions with individuals sleeping at the dormitory (sd 0.91 see Fig.2d)." (lines 135-136) might not be needed as it's not a mean, but a min value ("at least 1.29 hour). You may consider removing this SD.

2. lines 184-187 about wash-out period seems to be limitation instead of study results. See if you will move them to limitation under DISCUSSION section.

3. In DISCUSSION, third paragraph, authors highlighted the role of silent spreaders, which is nice. However, the former part (lines 204-210) seems to support that silent spreaders acts an important role, while the latter part (lines 210-212) showed that silent spreaders are less important. I am a bit confused. Were you saying that silent spreaders acts an important role, though the significance is smaller than symptomatic individuals? Would be great if the stand could be clearer, e.g. deleting "also" in line 210.

Looking forward to the publication of this interesting and useful article.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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