Reviewer’s report

Title: Socio-demographic characteristics and co-occurrence of depressive symptoms with chronic diseases among older adults in China: the China Longitudinal Ageing Social Survey

Version: 1 Date: 30 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Ben Carter

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting and useful manuscript

Major comments:

1) Abstract/Methods: Describe the analysis method,

Main manuscript

Methods

1) highlight the structure of the probabilistic sampling methods

2) Describe how you deal with missing item and domain level missing data

3) Recruitment strategy- this is currently unclear

4) How do you deal with geographical clustering ?

5) Describe the case definition and was this consistent throughout the entire dataset?

6) replace the trend test with a method more consistent with modern epidemiological methods.

Results

1) describe the missing data and population under investigation

2) including p-values in all analyses in the results section.

Discussion

1) consider the implications for public health, and future research
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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

Unable to assess

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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