Reviewer's report

Title: Analysis of awareness of health knowledge among rural residents in western China

Version: 3 Date: 8 July 2014

Reviewer: Ryusuke Inoue

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated degree of health knowledge and factors influencing health knowledge level in rural China. I have some comments below.

Major comments

1. Where are the study regions located in Inner Mongolia? West of Inner Mongolia? I feel that Inner Mongolia is northern China, rather than western China. Thus, the authors should show the location of study regions diagrammatically.

2. The socio-geographic data of the study regions should be shown, for example, area of the regions, population, density of population, average income, etc.

3. Please show average and range of age, years of education, and household income of whole study subjects.

4. Do you have any easily available data, for example, blood pressure, height, weight, or body mass index? Also do you have any data of past history or family history of participants?

5. In the Text, the authors showed that “most people would get health knowledge from doctor, and more than half of residents get health knowledge through radio, television, newspapers and magazines. Similarly, 69.0% of the people through family members, neighbors or friends get knowledge”. However, only television is involved in the Abstract. Doctors or family members should be included as sources of health knowledge in the Abstract.

6. Is there any relationship between education level and family economic condition? In many countries, education level usually correlates positively with family economic condition.

7. I think that migrant workers would be busy people. However, in Table 3, their score is high. Is income of them low?

8. The authors mentioned that malignant tumor detection rate and cardiovascular death rate of high earners are higher than those of China’s total population and their causes are the lack of health knowledge and unhealthy behaviors among high earners. Do not low earner have a smoking habit or a drinking habit? Is mortality rate from cancer or cardiovascular diseases among low earners? What
are major death causes of low earners? Please clarify.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.