Reviewer's report

Title: Consumption and drinking frequency of alcoholic beverage among women in Ghana: A cross-sectional study

Version: 4 Date: 27 January 2015

Reviewer: Priscilla Martinez

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Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors did a good job responding to comments. There are three major compulsory revisions I believe are necessary to improve the manuscript.

1. I think it is of the utmost importance to maintain scientific clarity and integrity that the outcome variables are described in their entirety, that is, that the timeframe is included whenever they are discussed or presented. For example, lines 227-228 stating the “prevalence of alcohol beverage consumption” should read PAST WEEK beverage consumption. This is true for many other places in the manuscript, from the Abstract through to the Conclusion. Also, in many places the past week timeframe is in parentheses, and this should be removed and the timeframe presented as an integral variable detail. Similarly, in the methods where the question asked to determine alcohol use is presented, no time frame is attached to the question and this is confusing and should be clarified.

2. There remain a couple places in the manuscript where the authors state that consumption of alcoholic beverages is high or frequent among Ghanaian women. For example, in the conclusions, the authors conclude that “women frequently consume alcoholic beverage once in every seven days”. I disagree with this conclusion as it’s based on the estimate that less than a fifth of women surveyed are past week drinkers, and interpreting this as “frequent” seems to be an overstatement.

3. Lastly, I think the manuscript would greatly benefit from a language edit. There are several places in the manuscript where it is difficult to understand what is trying to be conveyed. For example, lines 286-288, is a confusing sentence and the meaning is difficult to glean. It is unclear if the authors are talking about frequency of weekly consumption or quantity.

Minor Revisions

There are no internationally accepted guidelines for daily alcohol consumption, and while this is acknowledged later in this paragraph, sentence 77-78 sounds as if there are agreed upon guidelines. This should be corrected.

Sentence 84-86 is unclear and needs to be re-written.
Lines 103-104, for what year were these estimates derived?

It is unnecessary and makes it difficult to read to have all the categories for the covariates listed in the results section. It is unclear which of the categories were significant, and this is explained later on regardless, so it seems redundant. Lines 251-253 are not needed since this is already explained in the methods.

**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:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.