Reviewer’s report

Title: Quantifying disparities in cancer incidence and mortality of Australian residents of New South Wales (NSW) by place of birth: an ecological study

Version: 4 Date: 29 June 2015

Reviewer: Wan Qing Chen

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Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. Authors analysed the incidence, mortality and MI ratio for the residents born in overseas. However, the environmental effects were ignored. For example, lung cancer risk of lung cancer could be different between recent immigrants and people who have been stayed for decades. It was suggest stratified by length of immigration.

2. For most part of Asia, the cancers with poor prognosis, such as liver, lung, pancreas cancers had high mortalities. But the results showed, the MI ratios were very low (stands for high survival rates). Authors should explain the potential reasons.

3. Population figures are important for calculation. Because it always changes year by year, I am curious how the reliable population figure could be obtained. The proportion of overseas populations is suggest include as a table.

Minor Essential Revisions:
Same decimal places should be checked in texts and tables.

Discretionary Revisions:
The comparison between immigrants and their own areas population might be meaningful. For example, the incidence, mortality and cancer pattern could be different and the changed environment is the season. Authors could add a table for this comparison, using data from Globocan or CI5.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.