Reviewer's report

Title: Social capital and health in China: Exploring the mediating role of lifestyle

Version: 1 Date: 27 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Bjørn E. Holstein

Reviewer's report:

The authors have responded adequately to the issues raised in the review process and the revised paper is a nice contribution to the literature on social capital and health.

I have a few suggestions for minor revisions of the manuscript and kindly ask the authors to consider these suggestions. I do not need to see the manuscript again.

1. Abstract, page 2, line 13: Please consider to replace the word "how" with the word "whether"

2. Please consider to mention in the Abstract that the observed mediation proportion was modest, e.g. by adding the per cent reduction in estimates

3. Introduction, page 6 where you present the two aims of the paper: Please consider to replace the word "determine" with the word "examine"

4. Methods: Please consider to mention the age range of the study population

5. Methods: I like the presentation of the three-stage sampling procedure. Please consider to add one more piece of information: Whom within the household was selected as the respondent(s)?

6. The presentation of the study population in the text page 9-10 is so thorough that Table 1 is not really needed. Please consider to skip Table 1

7. Results and/or discussion: The observed mediation proportions are fairly small. I propose that you mention this in the Results section and/or the Discussion section.
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.

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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