Reviewer’s report

Title: The association between exposure to secondhand smoke and psychological symptoms among Chinese children

Version: 2 Date: 24 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Pamela Schuetze

Reviewer's report:

This revised manuscript has improved as a result of the authors’ response to revisions. Unfortunately, I do have a few continuing concerns about this manuscript.

* The term mental disorder continues to be used throughout the manuscript despite the fact that the authors indicated that they addressed this by using the less awkward and more widely used phrase psychological symptoms. While psychological symptoms may not be an appropriate substitution in all places in this manuscript, the authors should consider more appropriate terms like mental health disorders or psychological disorders when discussing clinically significant disorders and mental health or psychological symptoms when referring to levels of symptoms.

* It is not clear if the authors consistently used levels of symptoms as assessed by the SDQ or categorical data (normal, borderline, clinical) in their analyses. It appears that it is the former but this needs to be clarified starting with the methods section when describing the scoring of the SDQ.

* A careful read-through of this manuscript is necessary to catch typos and other small grammatical issues.

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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