Reviewer’s report

Title: Herbal or traditional medicine consumption in a Thai worker population: pattern of use and therapeutic control in chronic diseases.

Version: 0 Date: 05 Jul 2018

Reviewer: Fang-Pey Chen

Reviewer's report:

The aim of this study was to examine the frequency and risk factors with HTM in a Thai worker population and document the most common types of HTM used in various NCD conditions.

However, this article seems too long to be published and the scope in content is too wide. I suggest the authors to focus on the main subject and condense the contents, also to delete some figures by using description. Other suggestions as below:

1. To describe the detailed measurements of blood pressure, glucose, CKD, and obesity, etc., seems not necessary. They are general basic data for any subject underwent physical check-up as study needed.

2. The participants were from a work company, and the male workers are the most. Therefore, this study has limitation and bias in the first place.

3. There is no discussion about alcohol consumption or obesity related to HTM usage in this paper.

4. Why the authors chose the term of non-communicable diseases, but not chronic conditions, in this study, and finally, just picked up DM, HT, cancer, CKD or liver disease without giving definition to the term of NCD.

5. The authors use herbal and traditional medicine in this study, then, looks like the participants were buying those HTM by themselves, without physicians prescription. In fact, for those garlic or turmeric, they are healthy food in many countries rather as medicine. I wonder the regulations in Thailand, whether there are traditional doctors to prescribe herbal or traditional medicine or not?

6. I cannot agree on page 12, from line 29 to 4. The CKD in Taiwan was not attributed to the use of aristolochic acid, but to the usage of NSAIDs and self-buying herbal medicines.
To do the hypothesis as the HTM use is associated with improved therapeutic control of CVD risk factors, I suggest the author to ask the participants about their attitude or expectation for buying these healthy food and to check whether there are evidences to think about prevention of diseases, even non-communicable, or communicable ones, by those herb and traditional medicines.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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