Reviewer’s report

Title: Acute effects of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) on hospital admissions for cardiovascular disease in Beijing, China: A time-series study

Version: 1 Date: 23 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Matteo Renzi

Reviewer’s report:

I appreciate the effort of the authors to respond to my requests in the previous round of review. The authors addressed some concerns but some others not. In particular, the analysis by period highlighted a clear decreasing effects in the last two years for all causes considered. The authors stated "Moreover, the effect estimate did not change much when analysis is done by period, and most of the effects were insignificant" even if the estimates decreased sharply in all cases. It need to be changed.

Moreover, the shape of the exposure response functions seem to be different while single lag estimates displayed higher effects at lag 2 and lag 3 in the last two years compared to the previous.

This point is crucial and demonstrated what I reported in my first comment in the previous review. The authors provided some possible explanations to this phenomenon that could be added in the Discussion to justify the effects observed in the Supplemental analysis. I suggest to insert the analysis by year in the main text and discussed it exhaustively.

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