May 29, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: SR bra wearing and Breast cancer risk factors_WJMA_14838_for review 15.5.2015.doc).

Title: Brassiere wearing and breast cancer risk: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Author: Winnie WK So, Dorothy NS Chan, Yan Lou, Kai-chow Choi, Carmen WH Chan, Kristina Shin, Ava Kwong, Diana TF Lee

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Meta-Analysis*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 14838

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:
1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

Reply to the Editor/Reviewers

We thank the Reviewers for the exceptionally careful reading of our manuscript and the helpful comments. We have revised the manuscript according to the recommendations as detailed below. All changes are clearly indicated with bold font in the revised manuscript for easy inspection.

Reply to Reviewer No. 1 (00070894)

#1. From the review, within the 8 studies, only one is multi-centre study, the other 7 studies are carried only in Asia. So the results mainly reflex the condition of the Asia. Because of the region divergence among breast cancer epidemiology, we suggest that the title could be "Brassiere wearing and breast cancer risk among Asia women."
Authors' reply:
After expanding the search range in other language expect for English and Chinese in 2011-2015, four additional articles had been searched and came up with 12 articles. In view the quality of these two selected papers, we suggested to keep them in this review. However, we have specified that the majority of the included articles targeted the Chinese population.

#2. From the 8 studies, there are 5 studies offered the data about:" wearing a brassiere during sleep" and "breast cancer risk". In the "Result" part, the meta-analysis result was from the 5 studies which is all from China. So the conclusion is too "big". More study on aboard are needed.
Authors' reply:
After expanding the search range in other language expect for English and Chinese in 2011-2015, four additional articles had been searched and came up with 12 articles. Although ten of them targeted Chinese population, the quality of most articles was fair only. Thus, our recommendations emphasized more on conducting future studies with better methodology instead of conducting more studies abroad.

#3. The major limitation of the review is that only one study had conducted mammography

screening to exclude the presence of breast cancer among control participants. So the heterogeneity of the study is under discussion.

Authors' reply:
Thanks for the reviewer's comment. We have specified this in the limitation section.

#4. Talk about the analytic methods, multivariable logistic regression is standard.

Authors' reply:
We agree that multivariable logistic regression is a standard analytical method. We are happy to remove this part if the editor also thinks that this section is redundant.

#5. For the modifiable factors, the author was considerate and concluded obesity, BMI, physical activity, location and so on which were important in breast cancer risk. But how to synthesize these factors? The author should explain it clearly.

Authors' reply:
Explanation has been added. (Modifiable factor section)

#6. The author had better explain "The association between brassiere wearing and breast cancer risk" more clearly, how and when it is worn? why choose 12 hours for the duration of brassiere wearing? There wear too many questions waiting for answer.

Authors' reply:
Expanded explanation has been added. (Throughout the manuscript)
Our authors did not chose 12 hours as a cutoff for the duration of brassiere wearing, it has been studied previously and found as a risk factor .

#7. The nearest study is in 2011, Add more reference in recent 4 years as possible. Expand the search range in other language expect for English and Chinese.

Authors' reply:
Four more case-control studies have been added in to the systematic review and meta-analysis. (Throughout the manuscript)

#8. The last question is: from the figure 2, all the study suggested the increased risk of sleeping with brassiere and breast cancer risk. So why to do this review and meta-analysis? In my opinion, meta-analysis is aim to solve the controversy, if there was no controversy, what is the meaning of this meta-analysis?

Authors' reply:
Inconsistent results were noted in the case of brassiere wearing during sleep and duration of daily brassiere use. Among 7 studies, two studies found no significant difference in the breast cancer risk between sleeping with or without a brassiere on   and the rest showed various effect size. Also, 2 studies had reported the association between the duration of daily brassiere use and breast cancer but Chen et al (2014) found contradicting result. We conducted meta-analysis to assess the strength of the associations between sleeping with brassiere, duration of daily brassiere use, and breast cancer risk. (Association between exposure of brassiere and breast cancer risk and Discussion sections)

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Meta-Analysis.*

Sincerely yours,

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