Reviewer’s report

Title: Labor force participation in later life: Evidence from a cross-sectional study in Thailand

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Reviewer: Armando Barrientos

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Review of ‘Labor force participation in later life: Evidence from a cross-sectional study in Thailand’

The paper examines correlates of labour for participation of people aged 60 and over in Thailand, using a dedicated survey. Overall, the paper contributes to knowledge on this area. The approach, methods, and results of the research are presented in a clear and accessible fashion. The statistical analysis is appropriate and competently executed.

I have two main areas of concern, and suggest the following revisions to the paper:

1. There are important determinants of labour force participation of older people which are not explored in the paper due to data limitations. As the paper notes, pensions and other income security programmes have been found to be key determinants of participation in other countries (see para starting with Clark et al ...), but they are not included in the multivariate analysis. The paper focuses on the variables included in the analysis, but provides no discussion of other factors left out of the analysis due to data limitations or the choices made by the researchers. A statement on the limitations of this piece of research is required.

2. In inferring policy implications from the research a key issue is whether labour force participation is primarily determined by the employment opportunities available to older people, and the presence/absence of age discrimination, or by the preferences/decisions of older people. The separate influences of these two main sets of factors are impossible to discern from cross-section data, but I would welcome a discussion of this issue by the authors to provide some context to the findings.

Comment not for publication:

The presentation of the paper is overall very good, but the paper would benefit from a thorough editing, especially relating to English usage.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests