Reviewer's report

Title: Indications, timeliness, and outcomes of Caesarean delivery in first-line referral facilities in Afghanistan: A chart review

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Reviewer: konstantinos dinas

Reviewer's report:

In general the question posed by the authors is well defined. Regarding the methods and data i have to make two comments:

1. The key point in this paper is the fact that the study cases are relatively few in number and did not reflect the actual distribution of CS deliveries by facility type in Afghanistan.

This is something the authors clearly state in page 19, but it does not solve the problem.

To get a more accurate impression of the situation would be to proportionally take cases from the facilities according to their number of births.

2. The other issue is, that although standardized data sheets were evaluated, the accuracy of the data in them is questionable. The authors recognized the problems with parity and age data, which are the simplest data to be reported, using a logical thinking, but why should not there be problems in other more complicated questions posed?

In general the manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition.

Regarding the discussion and conclusions of importance are the two comments posed above.

The limitations of the works are clearly stated and the authors acknowledge work upon which they are building.

The title an abstract accurately convey what was found.

The writing is acceptable.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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