Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with small size at birth in Nepal: Further analysis of Nepal Demographic and Health Survey 2011

Version: 1 Date: 27 August 2013

Reviewer: Georgia Verropoulou

Reviewer's report:

General Comment:
Although this has been submitted as a new manuscript, it is much improved compared to the previous submission of the authors. The paper is concise, focused and clear; it is well written, the research questions are clearly defined, the data used in the analysis are sound, limitations are clearly stated, the methods used are appropriate, the discussion and conclusion are balanced and supported by the data.

The paper is appropriate for publication in the journal, given that a couple of points are taken care of:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Background, 2nd paragraph.
I do not think that LBW should be described as “a major cause of death”. Rather, it is linked to conditions which may cause death among infants. Please rephrase.

2. Discussion, 3rd paragraph. The authors here refer to the findings of the study as if the dependent variable in the logistic regression analysis was LBW; it is stated that the study shows that “being from the Far western region of the country is associated with a higher risk of having a LBW infant”. Though the authors suggest that there is a strong association between small size and LBW, it would be more accurate whenever they discuss the results of the study to refer to “small size” rather than LBW. Please rephrase here and in any other instance you think this is appropriate.

3. A further careful editing of the paper is needed. There are a few typos to be corrected. For instance:
   i. Explanatory variables, 1st paragraph: change “quintile” to “quintile”
   ii. Explanatory variables, 2nd paragraph: change “inpaid” to “unpaid”
   iii. Explanatory variables, 3rd paragraph: Change “These categorise” to “These categories”
   iv. Discussion 1st paragraph: change “amental” to “mental”

   etc

Discretionary Revisions:
Background, 2nd paragraph, last phrase, “This study aims…” . Perhaps in this phrase it should be also stated that small size is a proxy for LBW, i.e. “.. with small size at birth, a proxy for low birth weight, based on the recent..

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests