Reviewer's report

Title: Perinatal mortality in pregnancies with omphalocele: data from the Chinese national birth defects monitoring network, 1996-2006

Version: 3 Date: 9 May 2014

Reviewer: Russell Kirby

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have done a good job in addressing the previous comments. Only a few minor issues remain.

1. On p 5, para on ascertainment of cases, add a sentence explaining why the study did not continue beyond September 2006. Readers will wonder; also consider adding a sentence toward end of conclusion about follow up studies, which might also include more current data. In this paragraph, there is also an extra 's' on the word 'gestation' (second line from bottom of page).

2. On p 6, first full para, if you say according to ICBDMS, this implies you will also include a reference.

3. The tables are much improved. However, there should be spaces between each rate or odds ratio and the confidence interval, as well as after the comma between the upper and lower confidence interval. Example:

   In text now: 33.9(21.5,46.3)
   Should be: 33.9 (21.5, 46.3)

   This should be corrected in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

4. Very minor, on p 4, first word second full para, the word 'multiple' might imply to some readers that a combination of risk factors are associated with omphalocele. You probably mean to use the word 'several' to indicate that more than one risk factor is associated. For readers unfamiliar with this literature it might also be useful to list some of the more important risk factors identified.

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'