Reviewer's report

Title: Rural-urban differences in neonatal mortality in a least developed province of China

Version: 1 Date: 4 February 2011

Reviewer: Okechukwu Anyamele

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. On the Results, page 5, lines 5 and 6, "The rural and urban NMRs declined by 47.7% (from 20.86 to 13.61 per 1000 live births) and 34.8% (from 9.52 to 4.98 per 1000 live births). This should be "The rural and urban NMRs declined by 34.8% (from 20.86 to 13.61 per 1000 live births) and 47.7% (from 9.52 to 4.98 per 1000 live births).

2. On line 10 same page, the figure should be 2.35 fold difference and not 2.36.

3. On page 4, lines 10 and 11, the authors should state what the code for rural and urban is.

4. On the conclusion page, since the study does not have income as a variable in its study, the word low-income in conclusion should be changed to rural setting.

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'