Reviewer’s report

Title: Gender and socioeconomic disparities in BMI trajectories in a middle-income country in the African region: a cohort analysis

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Reviewer: Samuel Olatunbosun

Reviewer’s report:

The paper was well written. This is an important contribution to the epidemiology of obesity in Africa, considering the paucity of prospective data in the region. However the socioeconomic structure of Seychelles is atypical for most African populations.

A number of the statements in the discussion section, specifically in the second half of the 2nd paragraph, seem speculative in the context of the data provided. Some of the inferences may be valid when previously published data from the three surveys are put into consideration; data to support them from the current study are rather scanty.

The authors stated (under Methods) that they did not test for differences in the BMI trends among the cohorts, citing the exploratory nature of their analysis. This by itself is a limitation of the study and should be mentioned in the discussion section.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.