Reviewer's report

Title: Addressing inequity to achieve the maternal and child health Millennium Development Goals: looking beyond averages

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Reviewer: akhawri shankar

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Paper title: Addressing inequity to achieve the maternal and child Millenium Development of Goals: looking beyond averages.

Title and abstract
Most readers only read the title and the abstract of a paper – particularly whilst browsing the internet and databases. These should therefore be concise and self-contained, providing a clear. The original title of the paper was written in good English. The title is specific and suitable for the manuscript.

Background
The main function of the background is to clearly and concisely establish the main question that the paper is trying to answer, how it relates to previous research in the field, and why it is important – the ‘hook’ and why the reader should care, the background of the research is be more comprehensive in this manuscript as desired.

Methodology
The methodology presented in a coherent and self-contained way such that a competent person could repeat the study and reproduce the results by following the instructions given in the text. Methodological details are provided in full details. Study location and study period is properly mentioned in the manuscript.

Results and Figures
The purpose of the results section is to present, in a logical order, research
data that address the central argument presented in the title, Abstract and background. The results are described clearly and concisely, with important trends identified objectively and made clear to the reader, with a description of the relevant statistical analysis where applicable. The figures and tables are clear and complete, ideally with self-contained captions so that readers could understand their main message without needing to read the paper in full.

Discussion

The discussion should lead to a set of clear and scientifically sound set of conclusions based on the existing data. Importantly, the discussion needs to be connected to the main hypothesis/question posed in the background and it should provide transparent arguments with regard to how it answers it. Where appropriate, it should discuss what additional research is needed to resolve any existing contradictions or exceptions.

The existing text includes discussion of the results well, so the relevance of the results to the main argument is clear.

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