Reviewer’s report

Title: The Less Healthy Urban Population: Income-related Health Inequality in China

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Reviewer: Zhuo Chen

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Comment on “The Less Healthy Urban Population: Income-related Health Inequality in China”

The paper is an interesting study examining the rural–urban difference in health among Chinese population with a novel method. I have some comments that hopefully are useful for the author in improving the manuscript.

First, the use of OLS regression in the decomposition is not the best option. The author should look into van Doorslaer and Jones (2003) to see if there are any methods that can be borrowed into the manuscript.

Second, which procedure the author used to calculate the CI? Note that Chen and Roy (2009) pointed out that incidental ties could lead to instability of the results.

Third, the author should be more careful in discussion the categorical variables. For example, the effect of age should be the sum of all age indicators because every single indicator is referenced to the reference category, which may lead to confusions in interpreting the results.

Lastly, The author’s review of literature missed some income-related inequality studies using the CHNS data, for example, Chen et al. (2007).

The author should do a careful proofreading to eliminate grammar mistakes. There are several repetitive citations in the reference list. The format also needs to be consistent with the requirements of the Journal.

References:


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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