Reviewer's report

Title: Disparity of anaemia prevalence and risk factors among rural to urban migrant and the local children under two years old: a population based cross-sectional study in Pinghu, China

Version: 1 Date: 17 March 2014

Reviewer: Marly A Cardoso

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revision

The main objective of the study is "To understand the difference of anemia status and its associated factors among rural to urban migrant and the local child under 2 years old in a small city in China". Using a community-based, cross-sectional survey, the authors described comparisons of associated factors for anaemia between rural and urban migrant. The manuscript in this version needs improvements in writing and data analysis. The use of "risk factors" for a cross-sectional study is not adequate. Data analysis must be revised to avoid residual confounding and improve the interpretation of findings. Epidemiological procedures for selection of variables to be retained in multiple models should be revised and described in the methods. As the migrant children differ from the local ones by sample size, age and economic variables, any comparison among them should take into account those differences. The use of prevalence rates for this comparison would be more appropriate for many reasons (high prevalence rates and cross-sectional design). The authors should be careful to conclude that breastfeeding over 6 mo and not using fortified foods are "risk factors" for anaemia since these variables could be considered a proxy of poor complementary feeding practices. Thus, the title, data analysis, discussion and conclusions of this version need to be revised.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

None to declare.