Reviewer’s report

Title: Assessing the Disease Burden of Yi Population by Years of Life Lost in Rural China

Version: 4 Date: 21 April 2009

Reviewer: Yunfei Lao

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General
After the revision, the manuscript reads more clearly although the expression needs to be further polished. Recommend the authors to ask for the native English speaker to improve the expression.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. There are some errors of grammar or spelling:
   1) The sentence 2, parar 1 of Background, namely the cited part from the website—“The Yaps are distributed in the were of the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau and ……”
   2) The last sentence, last para of “Calculation of YLL and mortality” part ----“This is a Microsoft Excel spread sheet that contains the formulate to calculate YLLs”.
   3) the sentence 3, para 2 of Discussion and the last sentence, para 1 of Results --“Whreas …. “
   4) The last sentence, last para in the part of Results and the sentence 2 in para 5 in Discussion “… with with…”
   5) The 3rd sentence, 3rd para in Discussion, “….does not matched to…”

2. In the “Background” part, the first sentence “YLL is one of the methods……” is almost repeated in the 1st paragraph of “Calculation of YLL and mortality rate” part.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.