Reviewer's report

Title: Regional disparities in infant mortality in Canada: a reversal of egalitarian trends

Version: 2 Date: 16 December 2008

Reviewer: Martin Wald

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Regional disparities in infant mortality in Canada: a reversal of egalitarian trends
The authors responded detailed to all critics in their cover letter of their reviewed work. In there paper mainly limitations in the discussion section are essentially expanded. In form and content no substantial changes are made. In summery it is a nice written paper about very important topics. The expressiveness is due to limitations sadly bounded. The content consider mainly epidemiologically and statistically but not really clinically considerations. Furthermore it's not truly possible to estimate the comparability between the different provinces without comparable clinical information’s. Its pity not even number of obstetric clinics and neonatal wards obtains from existing data without excessive work. The quite simple statistic is no handicap in principle. And its undisputed that applied statistics tests their hypothesis in the main. But it looks strange that elaborately statistics are out of expertise from authors of economical / epidemiological papers.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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