Reviewer's report

Title: The Analysis of Service Utilization in Community Health Centers Compared with the Local Hospitals in China

Version: 10 Date: 3 July 2006

Reviewer: David Legge

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

The authors include in their background an account of the New Co-operative Medical Scheme introduced in the country-side but this study was conducted in cities and basically has not much to do with rural health care.

The authors present the ‘six main functions’ of the CHC without explaining that these were the six main objectives established for the CHCs when the new policy for CHC development was announced. Policy objectives is not quite the same as main functions.

It might be helpful, in interpreting the results of the household survey, to know what questions were actually asked to ascertain awareness and satisfaction rates

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests