Reviewer's report

Title: Differential Mortality in Iran

Version: 6 Date: 14 April 2007

Reviewer: Farid Abolhassani

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:
Page 6, second paragraph: The beginning year of mortality data collection by Deputy of Research and Technology seems to be later than 1965. 1985 or 1995 may be the correct year.
Page 9, The last sentence of the page "That is, deaths reported in an ..." is not clear and should be rewritten. The correct sentence seems to be "That is, deaths reported in an independent survey of mortality are compared to deaths reported in the death registration system for the same population on a matching case-by-case basis, from which unmatched and unrecorded deaths can be identified and estimated.
Page 11, second paragraph, first sentence: Adult mortality is modelled as a function of either GDP/capita or literacy in the study. Therefore the sentence should be corrected to reflect this.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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.