Reviewer's report

Title: Burden of injuries in Iranian children in 2005

Version: 1 Date: 3 October 2009

Reviewer number: 1

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

The author must respond to these before a decision on publication can be reached. For example, additional necessary experiments or controls, statistical mistakes, errors in interpretation.

1. Authors need to strongly justify how this study is different from the study they published in 2009 with 2003 data (reference #2)

2. Page 6, first paragraph: authors say deaths in 1971, 2001, and 2006 are not completely comparable. Please explain why this is so.

3. Page 6, first paragraph, last sentence: explain how this study is different from reference #4.

4. Page 7, 2nd paragraph, 6th sentence: "incidence rates" does this refer to deaths? Non-fatal injuries? Both?

5. Figure 3 is not referenced in the text.

6. Figure 4, unclear why authors chose to present urban vs rural. Either combine, or describe why this was done and discussion of differences.

7. Figure 5: presents DALYs, unclear why authors did not just show death rates?

8. Starting page 9, F-section: what year are all these results from?

9. Page 10, F2 section: unlike other sections, no quantitative numbers are presented for falls. Same comment for first 4 sentences of F3 (burns) section.


11. Page 14, first paragraph, 5th sentence: give examples of environmental and social risk factors.

11. Page 14, first paragraph, last sentence: why say "there is nothing with children who get injured or die in injuries"? Am I missing the point of this statement?
12. page 14, second paragraph: I do not understand what this paragraph is saying.

13. Page 16, first full paragraph: how can Iran move forward to better protect children from injury. Are there any specific examples of what the country could be doing, or are there any lessons learned for Iran's successes with vaccine-preventable diseases, pneumonia, diarrhea, etc?

- Minor Essential Revisions

The author can be trusted to make these. For example, missing labels on figures, the wrong use of a term, spelling mistakes.

1. in Abstract, the authors mention three timeframes: 2005, 2001 to 2006, 2003 and 2005. Here and in the body of the article, it is confusing which timeframe the authors are talking about. Authors should better clarify these timeframes they are interested in and which results are from which years. For example, the last sentence of the first paragraph on page 3 says "2005", but on page 4 the first sentence say "2001 to 2006"

2. Page 3, move second paragraph to Methods section.

3. Page 6, 2nd para, 3rd sentence: change "...under one year of age to 23 in 14 years" to "...under one year of age to 23 in 1-14 years of age."

4. Page 7, first sentence: identify that Table 2 is only INJURY cause-specific mortality.

5. Page 7, first sentence: is there a difference between "traffic" and "transport", which is said in Table 2. If not, use same term throughout the paper.

6. Page 7, 2nd paragraph, 4th sentence: should read "Outpatient rates were higher in urban and rural areas."

7. Page 8, 2nd full paragraph, first sentence: indicate that Table 4 is about YLL, YLD, and DALYs, not just "burden"

8. Page 12, first sentence of discussion: change "important" to "common" or "frequent"


- Discretionary Revisions

These are recommendations for improvement which the author can choose to ignore. For example clarifications, data that would be useful but not essential.

None
Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.