Reviewer’s report

Title: Adequate Access to Healthcare and Added Life Expectancy among Older Adults in China

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Reviewer: Maria-Victoria Zunzunegui,

Reviewer's report:

What is the impact of access to health care in old age is a very pertinent question for health policy in rapidly aging populations. This is an excellent paper using a good analytical strategy. My questions refer to clarifications in methods and results that could provide more information on context and easy the interpretation of results and therefore require some modifications in the discussion.

Methods:

Please describe in detail the exposure variable: Adequate or inadequate access to healthcare. How the indicator adequate/inadequate access to health care was constructed? Did it refer to the last episode of disease or health need? What was the time frame? Please show in a table or write in the text the information on the answers to all items included in the construction of adequate care.

Results

Please, add a descriptive table with sex-specific distribution of all covariates (showing number of people in each category, i.e., number of men with less than high school education, etc.) and proportion of adequate access to care in each category of each covariate.

Table S1 should be completed with intermediate models. For example:

* Model I adjusting for age and rural-urban residence;

* Model II: further adjusting for Socioeconomic status indicator at baseline (education, occupation and baseline economic situation);

* Model 3: further adjusting by marital status and close proximity of children;

* Model 4: further adjusting for smoking;

* Model 5: further adjusting by health and functioning indicators.
Lastly, the sentence in reference to the United States "To put these findings into perspective, the average life expectancy at age 65 has only increased by 5.5 years over the past sixty-five years in the United States [16] » could be eliminated and replaced by some comparison of the effect on life expectancy of adequate health care with the effects of either the economic situation, the effect of current marital status or children proximity.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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