Reviewer’s report

Title: High risk pregnancy associated perinatal morbidity and mortality: A second birth population-based survey in Huai’an in 2015

Version: 0 Date: 11 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Xiangpeng Liao

Reviewer's report:

The authors have conducted a comprehensive regional data analysis of perinatal healthcare system, both for comparing the differences of main results of perinatal healthcare quality between 2010 and 2015, and exploring the relationship between high risk pregnancy and perinatal morbidity and mortality. These data should be important and useful both for quality improvement and vital statistic. And the data do suggest a significant improvement in perinatal outcome within a typical region, which may partly reflect the situation of China.

However, there are some key limits to the data quality. As known from the tables, some data, such as fetal deaths/stillbirths, neonatal mortality, congenital anomalies, are highly not in line with the reports of regional, national and international literature. This may due to the fact that the data are mainly based on the routine report of maternal and child healthcare system, other than site investigation.

Shortage of full registration of artificial labor to end pregnancy and withdrawal of newborns in early life, is one of main reasons for the data accuracy in China. However, the authors did not explain them. Standard operating procedure and data quality control are also needed.

It is suggested that the vital statistics system be discussed in the context, and currently the document cannot support the conclusion: "providing further evidence for the validity and applicability of the study concept and protocol for vital statistics".

It may be more realistic that using some reasonable data for analysis of individual topic, other than a comprehensive description.

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

No

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

No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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