Reviewer’s report

Title: Analysis of low birth weight and its co-variants in Bangladesh based on a sub-sample from nationally representative survey

Version: 0 Date: 03 Feb 2017

Reviewer: Daynia Ballot

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript. The research addresses an important issue in neonatal health, especially in low and middle income countries. The article is well written, the methodology is clear, the results are well presented and the discussion is relevant. However, there are some required minor amendments:

Page 3 Line 17 - Use the term low and middle income countries in place of developing countries

Page 3 Line 48 - add the definition of preterm (below 37 completed weeks)

Page 4 Line 44 - don’t use "it" - The Bangladesh MICS covers...

Page 4 Line 56 - write out 5 in letters

Page 6 - Line 39 71% of the children had no recorded birth weight. The low number of children with known weight impacts negatively on the results of the study and should be explained in more detail, although this is later listed as a limitation of the study, which is correct. It seems extraordinary that the majority of children have no known birth weight and it would strengthen the study to have additional information on this group of mothers/infants. It is suggested that these mothers could be older, live in rural areas and deliver at home, but actual data on this group of mothers/infants would be valuable. Surely most babies have immunisation cards? If not, how many and why not?

Page 8 Line 53-60. With the large number of missing data, it is not possible to comment accurately on the prevalence of low birth weight in the whole population. Either omit this, or emphasise that this is not an accurate assessment due to the large amount of missing information

Page 11 - line 26 to 28 - the statement about even developing countries seems incorrect - don’t you mean developed countries?
Page 13 Reference 4 - spacing between words incorrect

Page 14 References 5 and 6 - are these documents not available from a website? Provide the URL if possible

Figures - the level of significance should be shown on the figures

**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.

Unable to assess

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable
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