Reviewer’s report

Title: Association of Maternal Ethnicity and Urbanicity on Severe Pediatric Disease: A Nationwide Cohort Study

Version: 0  Date: 29 Oct 2019

Reviewer: I-Min Chiu

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your hard work on this manuscript. The authors describe a nationwide cohort study based on National Health Insurance Research Database registry during 2004-2015. This is a very interesting topic since Taiwan has gradually become a multiracial society in past few decades. The design and analysis of this study is well performed.

I only have few questions regarding the data collection in this articles.

1. line 1, page 6. You mentioned that differentiation of urban and rural population was defined by based on 7 urbanization levels for the 359 townships of Taiwan, proposed by Liu et al. Were this classification based on children's birthplace or their hospital visit area? Since this is a cohort study follow up over 10 years, how is a child be classified if he/she moved from urban to rural area or conversely during study period?
2. line 7, page 12. "In addition, better accessibility of level II prenatal sonography in urban areas and selective termination of pregnancies in which the fetus exhibits major congenital circulatory anomalies before gestational age 24 weeks might partly explain the lower incidences of these conditions in urban areas." I'm not sure about this explanation. Did you mean compared to rural area, urban area mother has better accessibility of high level prenatal exam and they tend to terminate pregnancy in major fetus anomalies condition?
3. line 12, page 13. As you mentioned in limitation part, the incidence of selected disease in this study were quite different compare to epidemiological data. This may have much bigger effect on FBM/TBM and result in diminished healthy migrant effect.

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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal