Reviewer’s report

Title: Long Run Height and Education Implications of Early Life Growth Faltering: A Synthetic Panel Analysis of 425 Birth Cohorts in 21 Low- and Middle-Income Countries

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Reviewer: Anil Sah

Reviewer's report:

Q1. Author has better to mention few sentences which support title and objective.

We make the link to the title and objective as follows:

We estimated the associations between exposure to early life growth faltering at the population level and adult height and education outcomes in a sample of 21 low- and middle-income countries

Author need to write why are you going to study? Write in 1/2 in sentence.

Q4. How is your findings supported conclusion? As per our results section, we state that we do indeed find a correlation between childhood height at the region-cohort level and adult height, but we find inconclusive evidence that cohort-level childhood height is associated with increased educational attainment: In fully adjusted models, each unit increase in cohort childhood HAZ was associated with a 2.0 cm [95% CI: 1.09 - 2.9] increase in adult height, with larger associations for men than for women. Evidence for the association between early childhood height and adult educational attainment was found to be inconclusive (0.269, 95% CI: [-0.68 - 1.22]). This is re-stated in our discussion and conclusions section: While early childhood linear growth at the cohort level appears to be highly predictive of adult height, the empirical association between early life growth and adult educational attainment seems weak and heterogeneous across countries.

It slightly different between correlation (Positive or negative…) and association?. Author has clearly mentioned regarding it. ???

Result Section

Q1. It's unclear; you had better to provide country wise. While it is technically feasible to disaggregate our analyses by country, due to the relatively small number of provinces and regions in each country and the relatively small sample sizes at the country level, we found there
to not be enough variation and statistical power to be able to make inferences at the country level. For these reasons, a disaggregated analysis would not be possible due to the limitations in our data.

It would be better if you will analyze the findings country-wise (not analyze provincial or region of each country). It can help in comparing among countries.

**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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