Reviewer’s report

Title: Social Determinants of Psychological Wellness for Children and Adolescents in Rural NSW

Version: 0 Date: 01 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Michelle DiGiacomo

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper on the relationship between social determinants of health and the mental wellbeing of children from rural and remote NSW communities. The manuscript is well-written and clear. I have endeavoured to list a few minor points to be clarified below:

In the hypothesis section, the first study object is written as comparing child mental wellbeing across urban and rural Australia. This was not done in this study or at least in this manuscript. Comparisons of children from rural, regional, and remote areas were made against an Australian normative sample, not specifically an urban sample. This objective should be adjusted to reflect what was done in this analysis.

Please spell out acronyms both in the abstract and upon first mention in the text of the manuscript followed by the acronym in parentheses. SDQ is included in abstract, but not spelled out. ARMHS is spelled out in the abstract, but not in-text.

In limitations, authors should acknowledge that the data is from a survey conducted over 10 years ago. This should include a statement of likely relevance to current statistics.

The authors explain that the instrument used to collect data on current child psychological wellbeing was the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire - Parent Report. Two versions were used to account for different age groups - ages 4-10 and ages 11-17. For this older group, why were the children not asked to complete a self-report measure rather than having a parent report their perceptions of these adolescents?

The discussion point about further understanding of the impact of sense of community on the parent and child individually and together with the aim of developing relevant interventions is a great one.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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