Reviewer’s report

Title: USE OF ORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN PERU: TRENDS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES BEFORE AND AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH ASSURANCE

Version: 0 Date: 27 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Alexander Kailembo

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BMC Oral Health

Review of a paper entitled "USE OF ORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN PERU: TRENDS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES BEFORE AND AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH ASSURANCE

Date: 27th September 2018:

* Title: In the title, authors used a word "de". I think they meant to write "the".

* Abstract: Authors have used "disparities" and "inequalities". I suggest using one word "inequality" for uniformity.

* Abstract - Results sub-section: I suggest authors start the sentence like this "Study participants included were …"

* Background: Page 4 line 3: Add a reference to this sentence "Oral Health is a cornerstone for good health and optimal quality of life".

* Background: Page 4 line 9: Authors wrote "…being Asia and Latin America the countries with the higher burden". Asia and Latin America are continents and not countries. How about Africa, is the burden low in Africa? I suggest a sentence like this "with higher burden in low and middle income countries (LMICs) such as those from Asia, Africa, and Latin America continents"

* Background: Page 4 line 49: Authors wrote "show a reduction in the inequity in oral health services utilization" I have a comment about using the word "inequity". I suggest using "inequality" for uniformity.

* Page 5 line 28: The dependent variable has a time frame of 3 months. In other literature a time frame of 12 months or 6 months have been used. I would be nice to provide a reference for the 3 months' time frame. Because I believe if this paper used a 12 months' period, perhaps the proportion of the dependent variable will be higher.
* Page 4 line 30: Please indicate how many quintile groups are categorized and indicate which is quintile is poorest and which quintile is richest. Also include this information in Table 2.

* Page 6 line 34: I suggest adding a sentence or two about multiple comparison approach. I feel this will improve the paper.

* Page 6 line 44: Authors wrote "Processing and statistical analysis". I suggest writing "Data management and analysis"

* Page 6 line 50: The "Ethical Considerations" section can be improved. This study used secondary data but I feel it is worth describing briefly how the ethical approval were obtained by primary investigators.

* Page 11 line 7: I suggest authors add more information about the reason why older adults showed increased inequality, including a reference.

* Page 20 table 4: Please check language. There is a mix of languages used.

**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:

Needs some language corrections before being published
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