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: 06 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Elizabeth Mertz

Reviewer’s report:

This paper does a nice job of examining the access to oral health services after implementation of universal health insurance. I just have a few specific comments:

The paper needs to be revised with an English language editor (for example, the title says de implementation, which means "of" in Spanish, but means to undo in English!)

could use a bit more information in introduction on the universal access program - what led to this implementation, and how is the benefit structured? what is the co-pay or out of pocket costs? that would explain some of the wealthier access points.

under study design, you need to cite ENAHO

I realize with a secondary data source you are stuck with the existing variable. but the 3 months window for services is low. can you extrapolate and help the reader understand what this means in annual terms, in comparison to the previously published data you put in the introduction?

can you expand on what specifically was specified in this sentences" "All estimations and respective expansion factors and sample design were specified"

in results: you noate "It's worth noting that up to 2017, the coastal population increased from 55.5% to 2.5% at the expense of andean (31.7%) and jungle (12.8%) reduction." moving from 55.5 to 2.5 is not an increase, I had to look at table to understand, please revise. Also if you're going to say its worth noting, please explain why it is noteworthy.

in your model, do you have any geographic dental care supply variables (# dentsts per region) that might help explain variability?

Figure 1 is difficult to read, need higher resolution

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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