Reviewer’s report

Title: The rising burden of chronic conditions among urban poor: a three-year follow-up survey in Bangalore, India

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2015

Reviewer: Suparna Ghosh-Jerath

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Major compulsory revision

Line 391 Table 2 n is not clear for the self reported prevalence rates mentioned in column 2 and 3. Please provide 95% CI for the prevalence. Also, please check the heading and the content of the last column. What type of effect measure is mentioned in this column? Kindly correct it.

Line 71 This section mentions about healthcare expenditure but neither the result nor the discussion has any mention of this indicator.

Discussion section needs sections on predictors of chronic conditions and health care seeking. Please document similar literature around these important areas.

In table 3 on predictors of self reported chronic conditions, though the unit of data collection is at individual level, there are more than one individual in a household which might lead to clustering of outcomes. Some factors are at individual level while there are others at household level. Probably a different method of regression analysis is required to account for clustering.

Minor essential revisions

Line 58 Some references between 10-20 are repeated. kindly correct them
Line 295 : India should begin with a capital "I"
Line 309, 312, 315. Title for Refs 10, 11, 12 are same.
Line 212, 315 Entire reference 11 and 12 are same
Line 366 "S" should be in capital in Socio-economic
Line 400 An extra "S" is there
Line 87: Please correct design defect to "design effect"
Line 203: Rather than writing "we assessed prevalence" it would be better to write "self reported prevalence"
Line 151: It would be good if a figure on recruitment summary is added

Defining chronic conditions at the beginning of the manuscript might be useful
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests