Reviewer’s report

Title: Determinants of inappropriate admissions of children to county hospitals: A cross-sectional study from rural China

Version: 0 Date: 21 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Roy Grant

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting paper and a strong study. My suggestions for revision focus on the need to clarify some of the terms used and to ensure that your main points are clear for the reader.

These are specific recommendations:

Line 87: Change "According to statistics," to "Data show that".

Line 87ff: Please define "county" and "township" hospitals, focusing on their similarities and differences.

Line 89: Children do not select county hospitals; they tend to be hospitalized at county hospitals.

Line 102: What is "the suppliers' perspective"?

Line 117: The last sentence of this paragraph beginning "We assume...." Should be deleted

Line 258ff: This sentence and paragraph are unclear. What does "choosing the correct disease institutions" mean?

Line 273 (and this paragraph): This could benefit from rewriting. What does hospital selection "due to the risk aversion" mean? Similarly, the meaning of "sensitive medical treatment mood" is unclear, as is the reference to "instability of outpatient infusion treatment" (line 277).

Line 280, heading. The phrase "Children's patients" is unclear. Does this mean "characteristics of children who were hospitalized inappropriately"?

Line 284: By "rationality" do you mean "appropriateness" or whether the hospitalization is medically necessary?

Line 312: The sentence beginning "Residents in rural areas" should be deleted because it is too strong a generalization.

The Discussion Section is too long and as a result your main points are not clear. I recommend that you shorten this section, clearly stating and focusing on your main points.
Line 365: I suggest substituting "effective" for "rational".

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?
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Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

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