Reviewer’s report

Title: Errors in estimated gestational ages reduce the likelihood of health facility deliveries: results from an observational cohort study in Zanzibar

Version: 0 Date: 11 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Mario Merialdi

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written manuscript that suggests a provoking hypothesis that errors in EDD might influence the likelihood of delivery in a health facility. The authors correctly state that the data do not allow to draw definitive conclusions and indicate multiple factors that might confound the association as well as the limitations of their work. I think a factor that has not been fully considered is the potential contribution of biological variability to the observed variation in estimated delivery date. If possible it would be important to provide information of what could be the expected standard deviation of childbirth date estimated with a reliable method in this population or in a comparable one and relate this information to the intervals used to assess adequacy or under/over estimation of the EDD. In addition, it would be important to provide the biological rationale for choosing those intervals. Both questions could be probably addressed with the same data.

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.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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I am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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