Reviewer’s report

Title: The hidden burden of measles in Ethiopia: how distance to hospital shapes the disease mortality rate

Version: 1 Date: 18 Jul 2018

Reviewer: Matthew Ferrari

Reviewer's report:

I am satisfied with the changes made and thank the authors for their efforts to clarify the methods.

I would raise one editorial point that may be addressed at the editor's discretion. The Results section contains many speculative comments and connections/comparisons to other literature that are, in my opinion, better suited to the Discussion. As a general rule, I advocate for results sections only to present the novel results of the present analysis. For example L371

"The low impact of 2013 vaccination campaign with respect to past SIAs might have been influenced by problems in cold chain operations or vaccine maintenance [24] and the short duration of this campaign. However, the low impact of 2013 SIA may also reflect difficulties in immunizing individuals who escaped routine programs and past immunization efforts, especially through vaccination activities performed as a response strategy to ongoing epidemics [31]."

makes an important point, but one that is speculative and in no way directly supported by the evidence presented here. Thus, this kind of point should be presented in the discussion.

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.

Not applicable

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:
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