Reviewer's report

Title: Distribution of health care resources in Mongolia using the Gini coefficient

Version: 0 Date: 08 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Shin-Ichi Toyabe

Reviewer's report:

1. The authors stated that the aim of the study is to clarify the difference in resource distribution between urban and rural areas. However, no answer to this question is provided in the results section. The authors should show the results that correspond with aim.

2. To show the difference in resource distribution between urban and rural areas, statistical comparisons between two groups (i.e. urban and rural areas) or three groups (i.e., urban, suburban and rural areas) are necessary.

3. The authors stated that the distribution of physicians per 1,000 km² was highly skewed. Considering the fact that 62% of physicians are concentrated into Ulaanbaatar that occupies only 0.3% of land area, this conclusion is quite natural. However, 62% of physicians are concentrated into Ulaanbaatar where 45% of population lives. Does this fact really assure the equity of physician distribution?

4. In reference to Fig. 4A, the authors stated that there is no inequity between urban and rural areas. However, figures depicted by using GIS would change their image by changing the cut-off value of physician density. How the authors determine the cut-off value? Why did not the authors use cut-off value of 22.8 physicians per 1,000 population?

Level of interest

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