Reviewer's report

Title: Mortality trends in Australian Aboriginal peoples and New Zealand Māori

Version: 1 Date: 14 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Laura Dwyer-Lindgren

Reviewer's report:

The change the authors have made in the revision have addressed most of the issues I raised previously and have generally improved the manuscript. I would like to reiterate one comment from the first review: I believe that adding a table summarizing the different data sources—with, for examples, columns for the year range, analysis method, whether or not the source is considered credible, and which parts of your analysis (LE levels, LE gaps, ASMRs comparison, LE decomposition) each data source was utilized in—would make it much easier for readers not already familiar with these data sources to follow not only the methods section but also the results sections which refers to these data sources continuously.

In addition, I have a number of (very) minor comments:

1. The end of the introduction notes that estimates of the contribution of age-specific mortality to life expectancy are made for 2012-14, but at the end of the methods the year ranges are given as 2010-12 for Australia and 2012-14 for New Zealand.

2. Page 7, line 27 - the start and end for the product should be written out explicitly. E.g., with standard five-year age groups, this would be \( x=15 \) to 40 and \( n \) could be replaced with '5'.

3. Why are different age groups used for the analysis in figure 4 as compared to figure 3? The figure 3 age groups make more intuitive sense since they are (mostly) of equal length.
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