Author’s response to reviews

Title: Myanmar mortality registration: an assessment for system improvement

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Author’s response to reviews:

1. The editors discussed your paper and while broadly agreeing with the Referees comments, there was concern about the scientific validity of using single population Death Distribution Methods (DDM) such as Brass Growth Balance and Preston-Coale method. These methods have been shown to be inaccurate and very sensitive to violation of the assumptions which underlie them. Hence the editors suggest that you delete any sections of the paper where DDM have been used (pg 15 last para before Discussion; 4th last, 3rd last and last paras before Discussion) as well as any tables showing application of these methods.

Revised as suggested

2. The editors feel that you have made a reasonable case for the registration completeness levels you estimate using comparisons with levels of mortality (CDR, 5q0, etc) from other sources such as the GBD and the UN. In this regard, it is important to clarify how the adjusted mortality indicators from the 2014 Census were calculated since these are used in the table to make claims about levels of registration completeness across the country.

Revised as suggested