Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparison of three small-area mortality metrics according to urbanity in Korea: the standardized mortality ratio, comparative mortality figure, and life expectancy

Version: 0 Date: 31 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Rosie Seaman

Reviewer's report:

I really enjoyed reading this manuscript and the results were very clearly presented. The authors have a clear research aim and the findings have value beyond research. I recommend this paper for publication even if my minor comments are not addressed. My comments are very minor. When stating dates use letter suffixes i.e. January 1st Page 8. How many specific age bands in your data had 0 counts for deaths? Page 9. "The minimum value was not meaningfully different across the three types of areas" - can you reflect on this in your discussion? does this imply that neighbourhoods with low mortality are similar regardless of the level of urbanity? Don't just emphasize the differences in your results but hypothesize about the similarities as well.

Level of interest

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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