Reviewer’s report

Title: Delayed initiation of Antenatal Care and Associated Factors in Ethiopia: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 0 Date: 07 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Doyel Dasgupta

Reviewer’s report:

Reviewer comment

1. Method section, Sub-section quality assessment, at page 7, line 28 please explain how did you get information on unpublished literature?

2. In method section, Sub-section data extraction process, page 7, line 46, each variable is classified into two categories- exposed with outcome and non exposed with outcome.........this is unclear...... Do you mean delayed initiation of ANC (≥12 weeks and ≥16 weeks) as 'exposed with outcome' category? Please clarify the term non exposed with outcome.

3. Page 10, line 10 stated that nulliparous women were less likely to have delayed ANC initiation. But in method section, under 'Eligibility criteria' (page 6, line 21) you mentioned that you had selected women who had gave birth to at least one child. Clarification is needed in terms of selection criteria of study participants.

4. Result section, page 11, line 35, how you have categorised monthly income? Are these arbitrary groups?

5. Page 12, line 18........stated presence of pregnancy complication was significantly associated with delayed initiation of ANC for single group. Specify the single group, whether it was delayed of ANC ≥16 weeks?

6. Discussion, page 13, line 26, I suggest to add few points on the role of cultural factors or traditional practices in Ethiopia that would contribute in late initiation of ANC.

7. In discussion, page 14, line 37, you have mentioned financial constraints regarding initiation of ANC. It's my suggestion to add points in introduction section on financial burden associated with maternal health service in Ethiopia.
Level of interest
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An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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