Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and determinants of menstrual regulation among ever-married women in Bangladesh: evidence from a national survey

Version: 0 Date: 19 May 2019

Reviewer: Kamal Biswas

Reviewer's report:

Over all comments:

Thank you for undertaking the study analyzing data from BDHS. The study is important for the field of abortion care which is often neglected by policy makers, managers and providers. You missed a section on 'Objectives of the study' You need to add this after the background. I recommend to edit the articles and resubmit.

Line 42

Add 'extracted from survey sample of 17,000

add this other method related section.

Results

Line 46,

Mention population with rate i.e. 12.26% among ever married women.

Line 48 and all relevant sections

Complete the range of CI where you wrote 95% CI 0.36-0.7

Line 65, 105

Abortion is not absolutely illegal in Bangladesh. Add 'except to save woman's live' after 'abortion is illegal in Bangladesh.

Conclusion

Line 78,
Revise the recommendation based on your study findings. You jumped to a recommendation for 'legalization of abortion in Bangladesh' which is very important from general sense and from other study findings, but this does not directly relate to your data and findings.

Line 113
Replace the sentence ending with '10 weeks if provided by family welfare visitors' with 10 weeks if provided by mid-level providers. Please consult the government circular on this.

Line 116, Government is actually expanding provider base through training mid-level providers like nurses and midwives on MR services. Consider re-phrasing the lines.

Line 275 - 277
Is this statement supported by your data, if not consider omitting the argument.

Statistical Analysis
Line 178-191
Comment: Control variable is not clear, clarify.

Line 303
BDHS collected relevant data from ever married women only, this is a limitation for not capturing information of MR that might happen to any un-married women. Pregnancy out of marriage is unacceptable in Bangladesh, is true but not relevant as a cause of exclusion from survey. BDHS survey main objectives are producing FP related data, Government does not provide FP service/commodities to un-married women/men so they are included in the survey.

Comment: Rewrite the section with clarifying understanding

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

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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