Reviewer’s report

Title: A comprehensive analysis of trends and determinants of HIV/AIDS knowledge among the Bangladeshi women based on Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys, 2007-2014

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Reviewer: Chau Bui

Reviewer's report:

This study examines uses national cross-sectional data from Bangladesh to examine which factors determine whether or not a woman is aware of HIV. In general, I think the article is valuable and acceptable for publishing in this journal, but could be further improved by reading through and addressing the comments provided. I recommend a native English speaker read through this study to correct errors in syntax, grammar and word choice to improve overall readability of this paper.

Specific comments

Page 6, line 13 "The remainder of the paper…" this section describing the organisation of the manuscript could be removed.

Page 6, line 57 "The main variable of interest is whether the women heard about HIV/AIDS or not". If you are using HIV awareness as a proxy for HIV knowledge, it would be good to state this clearly in the methods section, otherwise it would be more accurate to use the term "awareness" (rather than "knowledge") throughout the paper. It would be good to identify previous publications (if any) which have examined the associations between HIV awareness and HIV knowledge or protective behaviours (e.g. a person who is aware of the disease doesn't necessarily mean that that they engage in any preventative behaviours).

It would have been useful to also conduct a more detailed survey e.g. if participants knew about preventative behaviours, HIV programs, where to seek help or further information. This is beyond the scope of this paper, but could be mentioned in the limitations section.

Also, it would be useful to analyse preventative behaviours (e.g. condom use, family planning) as outcome variables - this would be another publication if it is beyond the scope of this study. For example, HIV awareness may be a determinant of whether or not a woman uses condoms or engages in family planning activities.
Page 6. Data and variables. It would be useful to briefly describe the datasets for the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys (BDHSs) here. E.g. what other data is collected? Do you have data on the incidence of HIV among participants?

Discussion. It would be useful to discuss HIV incidence in relation to your results. For example is HIV incidence lower in women 30-49 years of age, or higher in Chittagong, Rajshahi, and Sylhet division etc.

Please add a paragraph discussing the limitations of the study.

Table 1. It would be good to report the actual numbers as well. E.g. you could report the number and then add the percentage in brackets.

It would be good to show the survey questions in the supplementary material (or provide a link to the survey questions).

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

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