

Review of: "Out-of-pocket payment for healthcare among urban citizens in Dhaka, Bangladesh"

Satar Rezaei

Potential competing interests: The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

The authors explore the Out-of-pocket payment for healthcare among urban citizens in Bangladesh. However, there are some minor and major comments on this paper before its acceptance as follows:

Firstly, I should say that my decision is Major and revision and its rating is 4.

The abstract section

- A. All of parts well written and there is no comment on this part. Congratulate authors.
- B. In the introduction part, there is no information on health care financing in Bangladesh and how the healthcare provided in this country. I as an international reader in this format unable to track the health system performance in relation to healthcare delivery and health care financing. Please add more information on this topic in the introduction.
- C. And as per B comment, why the authors aim to examine the OOP in the Bangladesh system? It is not clear now.
- D. In the Method section; what does the mean by family planning? I did not understand it. Please clarify it.
- E. Please add some information on how many hospitals and health centers are in the Dhaka in the study setting sub-part.
- F. Sampling method and sample size are well written and very clear.
- G. In the sub-part of Major explanatory variables to support the explanatory variables please cite the following paper.
 - a: Socioeconomic inequality in catastrophic healthcare expenditures in Western Iran: A decomposition analysis (<https://econpapers.repec.org/article/emeijsepp/ijse-01-2019-0034.htm>);
 - b: Measuring and Decomposing Socioeconomic Inequality in Catastrophic Healthcare Expenditures in Iran <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6686108/>
 - c: Trend and status of out-of-pocket payments for healthcare in Iran: equity and catastrophic effect <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7606373/>
- H: Data analysis method and results section are clear and no comment caught my eyes.
- K: In the Conclusion part; the study finding should be compared to other studies in the national and international studies similar and contrast to the Bangladesh based on SES. Please use the following references to improve this part of the study.

- a: Socioeconomic inequality in catastrophic healthcare expenditures in Western Iran: A decomposition analysis (<https://econpapers.repec.org/article/emeijsepp/ijse-01-2019-0034.htm>);
- b: Measuring and Decomposing Socioeconomic Inequality in Catastrophic Healthcare Expenditures in Iran <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6686108/>
- c: Trend and status of out-of-pocket payments for healthcare in Iran: equity and catastrophic effect <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7606373/>
- e: The impact of out-of pocket payments of households for dental healthcare services on catastrophic healthcare expenditure in Iran <https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-021-11209-6>
- f: Catastrophic Healthcare Expenditures Among Iranian Households: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/IJHRH-02-2018-0017/full/html>
- g: Trends in out-of-pocket health care expenditures in Canada, by household income, 1997 to 2009 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24744043/>
- h: Health Insurance and Out-Of-Pocket Expenditure on Health and Medicine: Heterogeneities along Income <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8120147/>
- L: Please add a subsection after discussion part as Policy Implication
- M: I suggest "Review and update all References section". I suggest authors carefully review the bibliography section since not all citations are complete.