

Review of: "Factors Associated With Hospitalization Outcomes for Cases of Anemia in Pregnancy at a Regional Level in Burkina Faso"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper by Iboudo *et al.* presents the determinants of hospitalization outcomes among pregnant women with anemia living in Burkina Faso. The authors conducted a retrospective study, but there are important issues that should be addressed. Find my comments below:

Background

The problem the authors wanted to address is not clearly understood. The authors should explain in what identifying determinants of hospitalization outcomes in pregnancy is important. Also, the authors should clearly present findings of previous studies in Burkina Faso.

Methods

- Is the term 'unfavorable hospital discharge' synonymous with 'hospitalization'? I'm not sure
- I think the authors conducted a retrospective study, so remove the term 'historical'
- The authors justified the choice of study site in terms of high prevalence of anemia; please add bibliographic references to support this statement
- Your eligibility criteria are not sufficient. For example, what about medical records for which most of the data are missing? We know in Africa that medical records are often not properly filled up
- Add a bibliographic reference for the threshold of 11 g/l used for anemia
- The variable 'income level' was not properly defined. Housewives can be married to rich husbands, and thus, I don't think you should systematically categorize housewives in the low-income category
- Put your questionnaire as a supplementary file
- How was your questionnaire pre-tested?
- How many investigators administered the questionnaire?
- Determine the minimum sample size required for this study. Note that the Lorentz formula is not appropriate for such a study design
- In which language was the questionnaire administered?
- The way you constructed logistic regression models is not appropriate. Please refer to this paper: **Heinze G, Dunkler D. Five myths about variable selection. Transpl Int. 2017;30(1):6–10.**

Results

- The section 'Hospitalization results for pregnant women admitted with anemia' needs tables for all text you presented in this section, especially paragraphs 4 and 5
- Table 2: Use a full stop instead of a comma for digits. You are writing in the English language

Discussion

- Given the fact that logistic regression modeling was not properly done, the authors are advised to rewrite this discussion as the nature of determinants might probably change
- Add limitations of the study

Conclusion

Please rewrite this section as per international writing standards