

Peer Review Report

Review Report on Maternal pregnancy intention and antenatal care seeking behaviors in Bangladesh: Evidence from Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey, 2018

Original Article, Int J Public Health

Reviewer: Seblewongiel Kidanie

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EVALUATION

Q 1 Please summarize the main findings of the study.

This study highlights the association of maternal pregnancy intention with their utilization of ANC among women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth in the three years preceding the 2018 BDHS survey in Bangladesh. The study revealed that unintended pregnancy had a negative effect on the adequate utilization of ANC among pregnant women in Bangladesh. Socio-demographic factors such as age, type of residential area, educational level of the women, educational level of their partner, wealth index, parity, etc., were significantly linked with the utilization of ANC.

Q 2 Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

Strength:

Overall, the study is based on nationally representative DHS data. It has its own implication on tracking the progress of the Bangladesh healthcare system in reaching out those women who have unintended pregnancy. The introduction, objective, and method section are clear, logical, and readable.

Limitations:

1. Previously, many previous studies have been repeatedly confirmed that unintended pregnancy has implication on maternal continuum care (whatsoever socio-demographic variables are analyzed along with it). The notion that “unintended pregnancy and its associated factors have implication on women’s ANC service is well established. Thus the authors should give a strong argument about what additional thing they have brought in the discussion and conclusion part. There for, what is the relevance of this study? what new thing will add to the scholarly debate? Make sure your discussion and conclusion address the relevance of the paper to knowledge building in the field.

For instance; what has been changed in the pattern as compared to the DHS studies prior to 2018? What should be done to address the persistent factors related to women's unintended pregnancy itself, and associated factors to ANC for those who become pregnant (unwanted/late wanted)

2. Why marital status of the women is missed to be included as a control variable?

3. Table 2 and 3 (Analysis Presentation):

It would have make sense if you make the cross tab and binary logistic regression analysis for those who have unintended pregnancy and intended pregnancy separately. Otherwise it will not communicate tailored message if you just run it for your entire sample. You need to take those who had unintended pregnancy and see the impact of the variables in their first time visit, receiving of at least 4ANC, receiving of all the ANC services and supplements.

4. In the Use of ANC section of the result and in the Discussion Section as well:

Hence the study objective is to see the r/n between unintended pregnancy and ANC use, better to describe how many women didn't have one ANC visit within 3 Months (than describing those who had visit). How many didn't follow 4 ANC visits (than those who did). And all the relationships with SDC should be made with those who had unintended pregnancy and didn't attend 4+ANC services.

Q 3 Please provide your detailed review report to the authors. The editors prefer to receive your review structured in major and minor comments. Please consider in your review the methods (statistical methods valid and correctly applied (e.g. sample size, choice of test), is the study replicable based on the method description?), results, data interpretation and references. If there are any objective errors, or if the conclusions are not supported, you should detail your concerns.

Major Comment:

Table 2 and 3 (Data Analysis and Interpretation):

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Minor Comment

PLEASE COMMENT

Q 4 Is the title appropriate, concise, attractive?

Yes

Q 5 Are the keywords appropriate?

Yes

Q 6 Is the English language of sufficient quality?

Yes

Q 7 Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?

Yes.

Q 8 Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?)

Yes

QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Q 9 Originality



Q 10 Rigor



Q 11 Significance to the field



Q 12 Interest to a general audience



Q 13 → Quality of the writing

Q 14 → Overall scientific quality of the study

REVISION LEVEL

Q 15 → Please make a recommendation based on your comments:

Major revisions.