

## Peer Review Report

# Review Report on Rural–urban disparity in premature cancer mortality in young people aged 15–44 years in China, 2004–2021

Original Article, Int J Public Health

Reviewer: Mario Fordellone

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### EVALUATION

**Q 1** Please summarize the main findings of the study.

No answer given.

**Q 2** Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

No answer given.

**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.

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to review the manuscript titled “Rural–urban disparity in premature cancer mortality in young people aged 15–44 years in China, 2004–2021”. The study aims to examine and compare premature cancer mortality in young people aged 15–44 years old between rural and urban areas in order to inform early-onset cancer prevention. The research topic is very interesting, but I think that the work has several shortcomings in terms of statistical methods and results presentation.

1. Firstly, extend please the sub-section of the Data Analysis including the summary statistics measures used to describe the variables and any other statistical methodology used in the treatment of data.
2. It is important to clarify the motivation of the statistical model choice (i.e., Join-point regression) with respect other models and approaches used in time series analysis (e.g., ARIMA models). In this case, specify the methodological details on the JR with some bibliography reference could be a good idea.
3. I suggest adding a sensibility analysis on the residuals of the model in terms of distribution, prior assumption, and global and partial autocorrelation functions (ACF and pACF).
4. Any other accuracy diagnostic measure obtained on the model could be appreciated.

### PLEASE COMMENT

**Q 4** Is the title appropriate, concise, attractive?

No answer given.

**Q 5** Are the keywords appropriate?

No answer given.

**Q 6** Is the English language of sufficient quality?

No answer given.

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

No answer given.

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

No answer given.

#### 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.