

April 13, 2019

Dr. Hao Li
Deputy Editor-in-chief
Global Health Research and Policy
Department of Global Health,
School of Health Sciences,
Wuhan University, China

Dear Dr. Li,

I am pleased to submit an original research article entitled “Association between compulsory health insurance and life expectancy in 184 countries: A retrospective longitudinal study” for publication consideration in the thematic series “*Universal Health Coverage*” in *Global Health Research and Policy*.

In this manuscript, using country-level data for 184 countries from the Global Health Expenditure Database, we investigated the association between compulsory health insurance and life expectancy and whether there are heterogeneous impacts on life expectancy among different income groups. We found that one percent increase in compulsory health insurance as percent of current health expenditure was associated with 0.035 years (95% CI: [0.025, 0.045]) increase in life expectancy overall. Furthermore, we found a positive association between compulsory health insurance and life expectancy among low, low-mid, upper-mid countries, while a negative association among high income countries. This study addressed the main gaps in that exist in previous literature on the association between compulsory health insurance and life expectancy among different countries over time.

We believe that this paper would be of interest to the readership of the *Global Health Research and Policy*. This manuscript has not been published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose. All coauthors have read and approved the manuscript for submission. Please address all future decision of the manuscript to the corresponding author of this manuscript, Dr. Xiaojun Lin at linxiaojun1993@gmail.com. Please also c.c. Miao Cai at miao.cai@slu.edu for the convenience of communication. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

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