**Appendix. Supplementary data**

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at htt://[dx.doi.org/10.1016....](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016....)..

**What is known about the topic?**

China government launched an innovative policy catastrophic medical insurance in 2013 to prevent people from catastrophic health expenditure. The program has covered 1.3 billion people in 2016 and got some international concern on its policy design and its effect.

**What does this study add to the literature?**

Our study, the first evaluate of the effect of China catastrophic medical insurance, set the reduce of the incidence and intensity of catastrophic health expenditure as key indicators. China catastrophic medical insurance program may inspire other regions

**Editor in chief**

Miguel Ángel Negrín Hernández.

**Transparency declaration**

The corresponding author on behalf of the other authors guarantee the accuracy, transparency and honesty of the data and information contained in the study, that no relevant information has been omitted and that all discrepancies between authors have been adequately resolved and described.

**Authorship contributions**

P. Fang designed the study. S. Zhao conducted data collection, the analyses, interpreted the results, and drafted the manuscript. X. Zhang contributed to the data collection and interpretation of the results. W. Dai, Y. Ding and J. Chen collaborated in the data analysis and interpretation of the results. All authors critically reviewed the manuscript and approved the final version submitted for publication.

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**Conflicts of interest**

None.

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