Reviewer's report

Title: Mind the gaps and their implications for policy: a qualitative study of perceptions of healthcare professionals on challenges and proposed remedies for cervical cancer health seeking in post conflict northern Uganda

Version: 1 Date: 26 October 2013

Reviewer: Janet Seeley

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting and worthwhile paper.

Major compulsory revisions

Some attention needs to be paid to the presentation of the results. At the moment long quotes from interviews are strung together with short explanatory sentences. The authors can paraphrase the quotes more, and provide more interpretation of their material, interspersed with short quotes. This will help the reader understand the material being presented.

The English requires some attention. On page 4 the authors talk of `Challenging clinical situations shrouded with apathetic patients' -- how can a situation be `shrouded' by patients? I also wonder about the term apathetic for the patients -- Brazil et al. (the supporting citation) make no such comment about patients, indeed their concern is with showing empathy for patients. There are other instances of rather odd English usage -- so I recommend a native English speaker provides editorial support to the authors.

The references also need some editing to ensure they are all in the correct format.

Discretionary revisions

Was there any information on how the respondents might view this health issue in comparison to others? It would be interesting to know whether this was (perhaps) the first time they had been asked to think about cervical cancer specifically -- in isolation from other health concerns.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests.