Reviewer's report

Title: HIV, STI prevalence and risk behaviours among women selling sex in Lahore, Pakistan

Version: 3 Date: 10 January 2011

Reviewer: Juan Pablo Gutierrez

Reviewer's report:

Regarding the previous comments:
1. I still am not able to see what the addition is of this paper with regard to the 2004 study that is reported. I understand from the paper that this study is part of “larger research project”; so, it would be relevant to explain what the general context for the study is.
2. I mentioned that it would be important to contextualize sex work in Pakistan and in Lahore; the authors added a para on the history of the region; I would like to see what the current context is. I am still not clear why this particular region was selected for the study.
3. The authors mentioned that documenting trends is an addition of this study; I agree that is important, but then it would be necessary to actually document the trends. That is not done in the analysis. It is not clear if there are statistical differences between 2004 and the reported data.
4. I am not an expert on RDS, so I assume that the answer to the sampling issue is OK
5. I am still uneasy on the 100% response rate, but understand that is very linked to the context, so also assume it is OK

Minor compulsory revisions
6. I know understand table 2; I think it is not very clear the way is presented. It may be clearer if it is transposed
7. Regarding the multivariate analysis, not sure then why is not reported.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests: I declare that I have no competing interests