Reviewer's report

Title: Patterns of sexually transmitted infections in adolescents and youths in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Version: 5 Date: 1 November 2005

Reviewer: Roger Detels

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Responses of author.

#1 o.k.

#2 It is not clear whether the author is commenting on the initial response or the follow up response. It is the initial response that is important. That is were those who consented to participate similar to those who did not. It seems unlikely to me that those not responding to therapy would have the same demographic profile as those not responding.

#3 o.k.

#4 how did they determine "the intercourse when the particular STI was thought to have occurred". Was it the judgement of the patient?

#5 the explanation should be included in the paper.

#6 Since the authors do not know the proportion of illegal induced abortions that were reported they don't know the proportion of risky behaviors reported.

#7 The fact that gonorrhea frequency was low may reflect the low sensitivity of the test. Thus, their response does not address the question.