Reviewer's report

Title: Delivery of maternal health care in Indigenous primary care services: baseline data for an ongoing quality improvement initiative

Version: 2 Date: 11 January 2011

Reviewer: glen Mola

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed adequately the major compulsory revisions. However, I am disappointed that the authors do not see their paper as an opportunity to try and influence state health authorities to modify their policies with respect to the issues being studied, particularly the nonsensical policy of dislocating antenatal care from labor, delivery and post partum care. Even if a high risk antenatal client needs to travel to a tertiary referral centre for appropriate care late in pregnancy, it should be incumbent on the 'integrated service' that is responsible for her over all care to link the antenatal care with the labor, delivery and post partum care. And with regards pregnancy care of low-risk pregnancies in remote Australia - the case for local management of labor, delivery and post partum care should at least be a matter for discussion. This could in fact be one of the most interesting discussion point arising from this project, - the trade off between sending women long distances (both culturally and geographically) from their homes for high quality tertiary care and the disadvantages (and advantages) of low risk women birthing locally.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.