Reviewer’s report

Title: From maternal complication to death in Kinshasa hospitals: testimonies from women or their families

Version: 3 Date: 22 June 2010

Reviewer: Lale Say

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The manuscript reports findings of qualitative interviews with women who had severe morbidity and families of those who died during childbirth. However, study design is not clear. The study is reported to be part of a case control study but the mentioned case control study is not described well. Other limitations include; the low response rate, the lack of ethical approval, and the lack of a clear definition and criteria for severe morbidity. Reported interview findings are mixed for severe morbidities and deaths, making the interpretation difficult. It could be helpful to separately report the findings, perhaps only for women with severe morbidities.

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 declare that I have no conflict of interest