Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of extra care among magnesium sulphate treated eclamptic patients at Muhimbili National Hospital, Tanzania.

Version: 1 Date: 22 February 2011

Reviewer: Lennarth Nyström

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsary Revisoins
The authors use 4 criteria for definition of need of extra care in ICU, but they do not show any data on the prevalence of these criteria

Time taken to delivery: How was that defined for self-referrals and those at Muhimbili National Hospital.

Categorisation of variables:
A category with very few cases is useless! Thus:
Age: Only 14 cases in the 35+ age group. Reclassify: -19, 20-24, 25- (or 25-29, 30-)
Gestational age: Only 7 women <28 weeks. Useless! Reclassify: -32, 33-36, 37-
Marital status: How come that 174 are unspecified????

Table 1 and Table 2 should be merged!
Table 1 should not be a frequency table but a crosstabulation by Need of extra care (Yes/No)(The key variable in this study)

Table 3 should be Table 2
Should contain information on all variables entered into the bivariate analysis
Point estimates and 95% confidence intervals should be in separate columns to simplify reading.

Editorial changes
Usually not a major compulsory revisions, but this paper has so many!!!
Besides that almost every second reference has an editorial error!

Minor Essential Revisions
Tables:
1. The headline for the table should contain information so the reader can understand the table without reading the text. Thus avoid abbreviations like MNH
2. The < and > has been incoisistently used.
3. Time taken to delivery: 24.01 does not exist. Should be 00.01. Usually you
group as 00.00-11.59, 12.00-23.59, 24.00-
4. Gestation age (weeks): <28, 28-32, 33-36, 36< should be -27, 28-32, 33-36, 37-
5. Table 2: An incidence is on occurrence of an event per 100 or 1000 or...

Minor Essential Revisions

Discretionary Revisions
None

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declarae that I have no competing interest.