Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of antenatal mental illness in West Africa: A cross-sectional survey.

Version: 1 Date: 19 August 2011

Reviewer: Gerard A Hutchinson

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Major compulsory revisions- 1. a more detailed discussion of the effectiveness of the SRQ-20 in this population and its limitations especially since such a low rate of caseness was found.
2. Would suggest a less bold title than predictors of mental illness- the SRQ-20 is a screening instrument - perhaps factors associated with mental health disorders
3. a more detailed explanation for the low rates as compared to previous studies, especially as the suggestion of stigma is confounded by the sample coming from a medical clinic in an urban environment, some references to support the arguments would also be useful.

Minor revisions - 1. correction of typos eg pg 8 2nd para there was a difference instead of there were
2. last line of p11 this instead of his

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 competing interests