Reviewer's report

Title: Risk factors and a predictive model for under-five mortality in Nigeria: evidence from Demographic and Health Survey, 2008

Version: 3 Date: 1 February 2012

Reviewer: Deepak Chawla

Reviewer's report:

Authors have addressed most of the points raised during the review process. The manuscript now reads better. However, there is still scope of reducing the text and making the manuscript more coherent.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Statement of results in abstract section can start with providing total number of subjects and under-5 mortality rate.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Grammatical errors:
   a. Page 2 (abstract): “This study yielded an excellent predictive model which revealed that the likelihood of U5M among the children of mothers that had their first marriage at age 20 – 24 years and # 25 years declined by 20% and 30% respectively compared to children of those that married before the age of 15 years.”
   b. Page 3, para 2: “Furthermore, it is essential to identify determinants of childhood mortality because these will assist in formulating appropriate health programmes and policies to reduce childhood mortality by two-third by 2015 in accordance with WHO Millennium Development Goals will be more likely to be achieved.”
   c. Page 8, para1: “It was good to noticed that over 80% of the mothers interviewed have adopted birth interval of # 18 months between their deliveries.”
   d. Page 9 para 2: “Prior to adjustment for other cofounding effects we observed that being a female reduced odds of U5M by 13% while having birth order of 2 – 4 decreased odds of U5M by 13% but birth order of # 5 increased its by 25% compared to children having birth order of one.”

Discretionary revisions:

1. Authors may consider reducing the text in introduction.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests