Reviewer's report

Title: Perspectives of men on antenatal and delivery care service utilisation in rural western Kenya: A qualitative study

Version: 2 Date: 22 January 2013

Reviewer: Johanne Sundby

Reviewer's report:

This paper has been revised to a high quality and relevant paper. It is almost ready for publication in my opinion, but I still do recommend a few alterations.

1. Introduction. A LOT of papers use the argument of maternal mortality reduction as a background for anything in maternities. In this paper it is NOT neccessary. male inovlvment doen't have to ahve any other purpose than gender equity and involvement in future children. Start on paragraph two: "Most cultures...."

2. Reference has to be made to what is known on male invlvement in the rest of Africa (there are three recent articles from Malawi) and also in the world at large. in Wester Europe, in the past 30-40 years, one has climbed from barely any men present at delivery to almost universal prescense. Why? HoW?

3. Polygamy (page 3). How often? How common? You may take out the paragraph on "wife inheritance" - it deosn't really add to the papers relevance

4. Did you have any theoretical drive or framewok for the analysis?

5. The main problem or dilemma in the background is that there is a discrepancy between ANC attendance and skilled delivery. I don't feel that this problem statement is REALLY dealth with expressively in the results.

6. Have there been any programmatic effort to try to involve men beside HIV status?

7. Discussion. This study is one of the few which examine men's...- YES, but there are a few others. Which are they?

The discussion could benefit from sub-headings to enable easier reading.

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 am a co author and supervisor of some papers of a similar topic in another African country. These papers are already published. I have referred to them in the start of my review.