Reviewer's report

**Title:** Knowledge and utilization of partograph among obstetric care givers in public health institutions of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 20 October 2012

**Reviewer:** Bukola Fawole

**Reviewer's report:**

The Authors report a cross-sectional study that assessed the knowledge of the partograph among obstetric care givers public health facilities in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

Please report in the past tense.

Under Study setting, Authors employed the terms ‘different level clinics’, ‘different level private clinics’. Are these terms applicable only in Ethiopia? Do they correspond to primary care, secondary or tertiary health facilities?

Similarly, ‘hospital level’, ‘health centre level’ are not standard terms. Authors must use appropriate terminology.

Odds Ratio is usually reported in combination with the Confidence Interval (usually 95% CI) as used in the Tables. Authors need to report as such in the Results section too.

Being Nurse compared to Medical Doctor/previous training on partograph: Authors need to interpret these results. What are their effects on knowledge?

The same applies to the bivariate and multivariate logistic regression. Authors need to discuss these findings with regard to whether ‘working at hospital’, ‘level of training’, ‘previous training’, and ‘perception of obstetric care givers’ etc led to significantly higher utilization of the partograph or not. In other words, it is not enough to report the findings as significant associations. It is crucial to describe the direction of the association.

What information do Authors intend to convey in Table 3? The title needs to be revised. Is it proportion or percentage of respondents who correctly identified components of labour assessment?

It is essential to discuss any limitations of the study.

The entire manuscript requires major language revision.

**Minor Essential Revisions**

Under Introduction: (Last paragraph) ‘Therefore, the objective of this study ……..in the public health institutions’. Authors need to state among which category of people.

The total number of hospitals in Addis Ababa was reported as 48 in Study setting
and as 45 elsewhere.
For all mean values reported, Authors need to include their Standard deviations.
Under ‘Awareness and knowledge of the partograph among obstetric care givers: ‘Only 161 (82.6%) respondents could explain the function of action while........’ Apparently ‘line’ is missing.
Page 14 (Second paragraph, last sentence): ‘Moreover, 67 (34.4%) respondents agree with the view .........’ is confusing and ambiguous.
Authors may limit OR and CI to 2 decimal points.
The second sentence under Discussion seems unclear.
Page 19 (Second paragraph): ‘This may be due to the fact that at health centre ............. Most of the hospitals in this study are referral hospitals .......’. This is at variance with the reported 5 public hospitals and 25 health centres that participated in the study.

Discretionary Revisions
Authors need to employ a uniform writing style e.g. Midwives, Nurses, Doctors/midwives, nurses, doctors.
Use capitals for the first letters of Addis Ababa University College of ........
Review Dareselaam.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**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