Reviewer's report

Title: Determinants of facility delivery after implementation of safer mother programme in Nepal: a prospective cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2013

Reviewer: Maureen Dar Iang

Reviewer's report:

- It would be desirable to present place of delivery of this cohort (hospital or birthing centres). Women may give birth at facility other than the nearest health facility. The distance to nearest facility and distance to the facility she gave birth might be different. This study result of 78% of rural women gave birth at health facility seems a bit higher than expected. The institutional delivery coverage for Kaski district is high (>90% for 2011/12 – unpublished HMIS data). However, a study conducted recently to investigate overcrowding at 6 referral hospitals in Nepal found that 80% of recorded institutional deliveries in the Kaski district took place at one hospital (western regional hospital), 16% at private hospital and 4% at birthing centres in the rural areas. More than 55% of deliveries at the western regional hospitals are from out of district (not from Kaski district) in 2011/12. 50% of populations in Kaski district are from rural areas. Considering this recent study result, I think some women may deliver at facility other than the nearest health facility.

- Discussion on – maternity waiting home need more evidence considering history of MWH in Nepal.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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