Reviewer's report

Title: Access to Essential Technologies for Safe Childbirth: A Survey of Health Workers in Africa and Asia

Version: 2 Date: 21 December 2012

Reviewer: Gerald Dubowitz

Reviewer's report:

The paper is much improved and the authors have paid close attention to previous comments.

However, there are still some flaws in the English, the grammar and the layout of the paper. The paper needs some minor editorial work, best achieved by giving it to a reader who has not seen it before and can comment on the readability, flow and ability to understand the flow of ideas.

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS:

ABSTRACT: The background first paragraph should read: ....is essential to ensure successful childbirth practices proven to prevent....

MAIN PAPER

please review the paper for grammar and excessively long sentences (which as a general guide need not be over 2 lines long)

METHODS:

the note on unsafe abortion is not a method. It is part of the background or part of the discussion. There are other statements which the authors might consider removing from the methods, where they "discuss" rather than "state" the methods.

RESULTS

end of paragraph one is discussion not an objective statement of results.

RESULTS 3rd paragraph states there was a trend towards better availability. This statement needs to be clarified, i.e. compared to what? (one assumes size of health centre) ...

DISCUSSION

end of first paragraph: Please replace "institutions" in sentence...."Approximately half of global deliveries take place in institutions." This needs to read health care facilities. (or a similar term)

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