Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with obstetric fistulae occurrence among patients attending selected hospitals in Kenya, 2010: A case control study

Version: 1 Date: 4 December 2012

Reviewer: Zahida Qureshi

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Introduction
line 3 ‘near miss death’ not all cases of obstetric fistulae are near miss. At present WHO has a very definition of Near Miss Morbidity which is organ failure or in the case of fistula patients they may qualify to fit into the criteria in case they had severe sepsis or ruptured uterus. The authors need to correct the terminology and state that some Obstetric fistula patients may have had near miss morbidity

WHO Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data:
Evaluating the quality of care for severe pregnancy complications: the WHO near-miss approach for maternal health.
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Methods
Study Design and sites
Line 7 onwards
“In association with Africa Medical Research Foundation, ......................................... for them”

Above Statement in INCORRECT: the fistula clinic at Kenyatta National Hospital has been a routine service provided by the hospital since 1994 and since 2009 some funding has been available from AMREF to subsidize the hospital fee for fistula patients.

Section results
Paragraph 8
“In this study, almost a quarter of the cases were divorced....................... divorcing the other woman”
This assumption should not be made if the question was not asked.

Table 3
Female circumcision
Nowhere in the write up is any mention made of FGM/C and not clear if the patients were examined or not and also no mention of degree of FGM/C
This section should be removed from the table.