Reviewer’s report

Title: Adherence to evidence based practices for childbirth before and after a quality improvement intervention in health facilities of Rajasthan, India

Version: 5 Date: 19 April 2014

Reviewer: SUNDARI RAVINDRAN

Reviewer’s report:

This is a paper on a topic of considerable importance - interventions to bring about changes in quality of delivery and postpartum care. I recommend its publication after making the following minor essential revisions.

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS

1) There are errors in language in a few places: for e.g. in the second paragraph in the introductory section ("there was been substantial increase..", "institutional birth proportions" etc)

2) The introductory section has scope for tightening and better organisation. For example, Rajasthan is introduced already in second paragraph, but on page 7, "Rajasthan is a north Indian state with 68 million population.." etc appears.

3) Description of the intervention could also be more succinct.

DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS

Some crucial practices remain unchanged - e.g. improvement in cleanliness, postpartum checkup in ward. How can these be addressed? What would it take to bring about changes in these? It would be very useful to see this discussed in the paper.

DISCRETIONARY

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