Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with non-use of antenatal iron and folic acid supplements among Pakistani women: A cross sectional household survey

Version: 2 Date: 16 April 2014

Reviewer: Loretta Brabin

Reviewer's report:

Minor revision points
- Define anaemia
- 90 supplements is indicated as a cut-off? Please justify.

Major points for revision

In terms of style, this paper is well written and statistically well described. Notwithstanding this, it is difficult to understand why the focus of the paper is on socio-demographic characteristics affecting adherence to iron supplements. They would probably not be helpful in formulating strategies for efficient distribution of IFA supplements (the rationale provided). This objective is narrow, whereas factors affecting adherence are complex. Additionally:

Methods
- The long recall period is a concern with regard to the accuracy of the data. This is acknowledged but this does not remove the problem.
- I am dubious that the socio-economic data (based on husband's characteristics) reflect a woman’s status or her entitlement to health care. Use of these indicators needs strong justification.

Discussion
This provides a good overview of the literature, but it remains unclear whether the data collected can be translated into improved programme delivery. The lack of more descriptive/qualitative data for interpreting the results is a major limitation.

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.