Reviewer’s report

Title: Gender-related power differences, beliefs and reactions towards people living with HIV/AIDS: An urban study in Nigeria

Version: 1 Date: 6 February 2010

Reviewer: David Wyatt Seal

Reviewer’s report:

This article summarized qualitative data examining gender-related power differences, beliefs, and reactions to people living with HIV in Nigeria. The article is well-written, clear, and offers contribution to the existing scientific literature. The triangulation of multiple stakeholder perspectives is a strength. Ditto for the analytic framework which moves beyond individual and dyadic influences to integrate systemic and structural influences.

Some areas that could be strengthened.

1. Unless a required journal format, it seems the discussion and conclusion sections could be combined and synthesized.

2. The recommendations focus almost exclusively on governmental policy and regulation. Yet, the data suggest intervention efforts also need to be directed toward societal norms, gender differences in health care provider treatment, and the interaction of these two. I was looking for more reflection about what could be done in these areas.

3. The tables are too lengthy. Either eliminate or create succinct tables summarizing the information currently presented at the individual level.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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'