Reviewer’s report

Title: Utilization of antenatal HIV testing: Evidence from a community-based study in Northern Vietnam

Version: 2 Date: 16 October 2010

Reviewer: Larissa Mackey

Reviewer’s report:


Overall comments:
This is an article of importance not only because of the important relevance of the topic but also due to the emphasis of highlighting needs for changes in strategies and policies. It also highlights challenges in these goals.

There is need to review English language grammar in the overall document.

Minor essential revisions:

Methods:
The number of 'not present at interview' needs to be clarified between the paragraph stating 243 and figure 1 stating different numbers.

Findings:
- further explanation on factors related to why multiple tests were performed at primary level would be beneficial to note in the paragraph on page 6 as well as in table format. (Are women that are initially tested at primary level, tested again when they present at secondary or tertiary level due to lack of information provided between centres?)

Discretionary revisions:

Introduction:
Do you have statistical information on the rates of infected mothers in Vietnam as well as the overall Asia rates?

Findings:
- Include information on 'Are women who present to facilities without PMTCT and not tested provided information on HCT and referred to other centres for testing’?
- further explanation on factors related to why multiple tests were performed at primary level would be beneficial to note in the paragraphs on page 6 as well as in table format. (Are women that are initially tested at primary level, tested again
when they present at secondary or tertiary level due to lack of information provided between centres?)

- Page 6, Factors associated with lack of antenatal HIV testing, second paragraph. Sentence should read 'Moreover, women who were not provided information on HIV' instead of 'not provided informed on HIV'

**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.